

Freeman Field Auctions First Birthday Cake



—Army Air Forces Training Command Photo.

SEYMOUR, Ind., Dec. 7 (Spl.)—Military and civilian personnel at Freeman turned out en masse last week-end to celebrate the first anniversary of the field's activation. Private Morris Simon, left, in civilian life a baker in Bridgeport, Conn., is shown cutting the field's birthday cake, which he decorated. Measuring four by five feet across and standing five inches high, the cake was frosted to resemble a map of the field. Slices were auctioned off for the price of a War bond. Lieutenant Colonel Harry Lea'ke, second from left, started the bidding. Other guests pictured who attended the celebration, staged in a hangar on the flight line, were Major James T. Thrower, third from left, and Mrs. William N. Coxe, wife of Major Coxe, executive officer at the field.

The Louisville Times
6 December 1943

Freeman Field Holds Graduation For 8th Class

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Seymour, Ind., Dec. 6.—Speaking at the graduation of the eighth class of cadets at Freeman Army Airfield yesterday, Maj. Paul H. Harrison, intelligence officer at the Hawaiian Air Depot, Hickam Field, at the time of the Pearl Harbor attack, termed the graduates emissaries and ambassadors of the United States. He reminded the airmen of their opportunity to promote good will in foreign lands friendly to the United States.

Major Harrison now is intelligence officer at Freeman Field. He advised young officers to be considerate of the customs and culture of the peoples when they are assigned to foreign lands for "such conduct" will pay great dividends while stationed abroad.

Seymour Daily Tribune
8 December 1943

Chaplain McGuire Is North Vernon Speaker

Chaplain Daniel A. McGuire was in North Vernon, Ind., Tuesday night where he was the guest speaker at a meeting of the North Vernon Red Cross chapter.

Chaplain McGuire, stationed at Freeman Field, discussed the work of the Freeman Field Red Cross chapter.

Anniversary of Center is Held

Col. E. T. Rundquist Expresses Apprecia- tion of Fine Service

More than eight hundred soldiers and civilians attended the first anniversary of the Soldiers' Hospitality Center here Sunday. The program for the day opened at 10 o'clock with a message by Lt. Roland O. Davis, director of special services at Freeman Field. He was accompanied by Cpl. Joseph Boardman, who sang "The Lord's Prayer." A solo, "This is Worth Fighting For," was sung by Cpl. George S. Goodman, and a poem "Question for Americans" was given by Pvt. Thaddeus Ashby.

The Freeman Field Band, under the direction of W/O Mitchell Chetel, gave a delightful concert when the Center was opened for the afternoon program. Piano selections were given by Misses Jeanne Blair, Betty Reed and Norma Barkman. House Mothers, with Mrs. T. E. Ross, chairman, "Wings," soldiers and soldiers' wives greeted civilians and soldiers. Luncheon hostesses served from 3 to 5 with Mrs. Noble Foster and Mrs. George W. Jones at the punch bowl.

The anniversary luncheon was served at 6 o'clock under the supervision of Miss Marie Adams and her committee. Special guests at the luncheon were Chaplain and Mrs. Phillips B. Henderson, Lt. and Mrs. Davis, Capt. and Mrs. Robert Butler, Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Mitchell, of North Vernon and Mrs. Bramwell Lundgren.

The evening program was opened with the reading of the Scripture lesson by E. E. Walker, assistant director of the Center. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Mitchell. Col. E. T. Rundquist was introduced by Dr. A. A. Cohn, director, and he brought greetings and words of appreciation of the fine service rendered by the Center.

In his report of the year's activities, Dr. Cohn said 54,933 had visited the Center during the year. Receipts were \$2,570.74 and expenditures \$2,558.15.

Cpl. Victor Walters, one of the first soldiers to visit the Center, was introduced.

Chaplain Henderson delivered an address "Thank God for the Soldiers' Hospitality Center." F/Sgt. Forrest E. Breckenridge lead the audience in singing "Onward Christian Soldiers," with Miss Betsy Cohn at the piano. Greetings were brought by Bramwell Lundgren, director of the USO. Expressions of appreciation also were brought by Capt. J. W. Fuller, flying instructor.

Mrs. T. E. Ross, general chairman, and Mrs. Hermion Bartlett, who acted as chairman during the year, and all House Mothers were introduced, along with Miss Marie Adams, luncheon chairman, Mrs. Margaret Lexa, a co-chairman of "Wings," and all "Wings." Sgt. Robert Peters who assisted with the decorations, was introduced.

A program of music was given by the Cecelian Singers, of Hanover College.

The Columbus Republican
4 December 1943

HATS OFF

1,800 Freeman Cadets Set
Record of 18 Million
Miles, 2 Fatalities.

Eighteen million miles with only two fatal accidents—that beats any automobile record.

It's the mark hung up by cadets at Freeman Army Air field, who in covering that 18,000,000 miles in their twin-engine airplanes in less than two years, have kept the air above Columbus "hot" day and night.

The compilation is based on approximately 135,000 hours of flying time by more than 1,800 cadets who have received their wings at the field since the beginning of the training program on March 1, 1942.

Twingine Times, Freeman field newspaper, points out that if this distance were converted into bombing runs from Freeman field to Berlin, a distance of approximately 4,500 miles, 2,100 round trips could be made with enough miles to spare for side trips to Hitler's hideout at Berchtesgarden.

FREEMAN COBBLERS KEEP 'EM SHOD



Army Air Forces Training Command Photo.

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., Dec. 4.—G.I. cobblers, Cpl. William Hauksley, left, and Cpl. Anthony N. Gilla of the quartermaster shoe repair shop at Freeman Army Air Field, have a real job keeping the soldiers at Freeman the best shod "in the world." Learning their trade in the Army, the cobblers at Freeman repaired 664 pairs of shoes in October alone, at a net saving to the government of \$567.

The Indianapolis News
6 December 1943

FREEMAN FIELD CADETS RECEIVE SILVER WINGS

SEYMOUR, Ind., Dec. 6 (Spl.)—Speaking at the graduation of the eighth class of cadets at Freeman army airfield Sunday, Major Paul H. Harrison, intelligence officer at the Hawaiian air depot, Hickam field, at the time of the Jap Pearl Harbor attack, termed the graduates of Class 43-K emissaries and ambassadors of the United States.

Major Harrison, who now is intelligence officer at Freeman, charged the young officers to be considerate of the customs and culture of the peoples when they are assigned to foreign lands.

Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, introduced Major Harrison. Major William B. Poe, director of training, awarded silver wings to the graduates.

Seymour Daily Tribune
6 December 1943

Early Courses Keep Soldiers at Air Field

"Where are the personnel from Freeman Field" was the question posed by many shopkeepers and girl friends Saturday night when men from the post didn't come to town.

It was learned this morning that passes to this city were stopped in order that all men would be at the field early Sunday morning for refresher training courses. Married men living off the post were permitted to come to Seymour or Ridgeview and remain overnight.

Reliance Buys "Army" Seats

Block of 100 Taken By Firm for Friday Night's Premiere

As the stage entertainment to be presented by Freeman Army Air Field as a part of Jackson county's premiere of "This Is The Army," outstanding technicolor movie Friday night at the Majestic Theater, was rapidly rounding into shape today, it was announced that the Reliance Manufacturing Company of this city had purchased a block of 100 seats for their employes.

It was expected that similar purchases would be made by other local industries today.

All the proceeds from Friday night's show will be beneficial, it is pointed out, as the management of the Majestic is donating the use of the theater, including all equipment.

Seventy percent of the gross proceeds will go to the Army Emergency Relief Fund and the remaining thirty percent to the Jackson County Community and War Fund.

There will be no matinee at the Majestic Friday afternoon, as rehearsals for the stage production by the Freeman Field talent will open at the theater Friday morning and continue throughout the day in preparation for the night performance, which will open at 8:15 o'clock.

600 Civilian Workers Honored

Employees at Freeman Field Get Ribbons At Ceremony Here

Approximately 600 workers, including 335 sub-depot employes at Freeman Army Air Field, were awarded blue ribbon air corps insignia emblems as a reward for six or more consecutive months of satisfactory service with the war department.

In conjunction with a program held today in the post theater, similar services authorized by the war department were held throughout the nation. In Washington, D. C., civilians were paid recognition for their roll in the war effort at a program held today in the Pentagon building.

The service at Freeman opened with music by the 405th Army Air Forces Band under the direction of W/O Mitchel Chetel. A Novy film, "The Battle of Midway", photographed during the actual bombardment, was shown, with Lt. Kenneth N. Knight, civilian personnel officer at Freeman, welcoming the employes. He explained that the purpose of the program was to pay tribute to civilian workers and to commemorate the second anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack.

Major Paul H. Harrison, intelligence officer at Freeman, and former intelligence officer at the Hawaiian Air Depot, Hickam Field, at the time of the Jap attack on December 7, 1941, was the speaker. He related incidents from the bombing of Pearl Harbor, telling of the outstanding work done by civilian employes

at the depot who, with scarcely any equipment fought fires and enemy bombs, rebuilding airplanes which had been damaged by the Japs.

Short talks also were given by Col. John J. Keough, commanding officer of the sub-depot; Lt. Col. Harry Leake, of the quartermaster corps and Captain John J. Lucas, post engineer.

An entertainment program, featuring music and specialty acts, was presented by a group of sub-depot employes.

Rehearse "Freeman Field Follies" To Highlight "Army" Premiere Here

Assembling of a show such as the "Freeman Field Follies" which is to highlight the Jackson County premiere of "This is the Army" at the Majestic Friday night is no small task, according to Lt. Roland O. Davis, special service officer at the air base. Freeman Field is fortunate in that there is a wealth of excellent talent available for such a show, many of the boys having been professional entertainers before entering armed service.

To Lt. Davis has been delegated the task of building a musical and fun show to precede the showing of "This is the Army" for the premiere Friday night and already rehearsals are well under way at the post. It will be the

first public performance of the "Freeman Field Follies", made possible through the cooperation of Col. E. T. Rundquist. Curtain for the "Follies" is scheduled for 8:15 o'clock.

The premiere Friday night bids fair to be the biggest theatrical event of the year. The all-technicolor movie production of Irving Berlin's great show "This is the Army" is to be given its first Jackson county public presentation that night. It is the first picture to star the men of the armed forces. In addition to the original cast of the 350 soldiers in the stage show, many top-notch movie stars, all of whom donated their services in the making of this movie, have been added. Among them are Kate Smith, George Murphy, Francis Langford, Joan Leslie, Alan Hale and Irving Berlin, the author of the music.

Reserved seat tickets for Friday night's premiere were put on sale today at the Majestic and all indications point to a complete sell-out before the day of the show. All seats are \$1.10 with only the lower floor reserved. Seventy per cent cent of the gross proceeds from this premiere will be delivered to the Army Emergency Relief which organization owns the picture, and thirty per cent to Jackson County War Fund. The management of the Majestic is donating the use of the theater, including all equipment, to this worthy cause Friday.

Freeman WACs Will Review Troops Sunday

Post to Cooperate in Nation-Wide Program, "The Army Air Forces Salute the WAC"

Cooperating in a nation-wide program, Freeman Field will participate in "The Army Air Forces Salute the WAC" day Sunday.

Recognition of the Air WACs at Freeman will begin with a formal retreat Saturday when the women review the troops. Sunday special chapel services will be dedicated to the Air WACs.

High ranking army officers have consistently praised the work of the WACs. General George C. Marshall said of the corps, "Enlistees represent the highest type of American womanhood and as a whole the women have maintained the highest standards in every respect. They have fulfilled their duties in an efficient and businesslike manner."

Valuable in Air Forces.

The WACs have been particularly valuable in the AAF as there are a number of key positions for which the women have notable aptitude. These jobs include essential assignments of air traffic control, instructors in Link trainers, weather observation, radio code instructors and clerks.

Under a new set up, qualified women may enlist in the Women's Army Corps and be assigned to the Air WACs. To be eligible women must be in good physical health, have an excellent moral character, have no dependents or children under fourteen and be between the ages of twenty and fifty.

Women interested in joining may obtain further information by calling the public relations office at Freeman Field.

"This Is Army" Premiere Is Set

Freeman Field to Present Special Stage Feature Friday Night

Seymour will be the scene of one of the most pretentious theatrical events in its history Friday night, December 10, when the Jackson county premier of Irving Berlin's all-technicolor picture, "This is the Army," will be given at the Majestic Theater.

In addition to the feature picture, "The Freeman Field Follies", an all-soldier stage show from the local air base, has been booked for this one-night gala event. Over fifty clever G. I. entertainers will present a one-hour show of music, fun and dancing upon the large Majestic stage.

All proceeds from the premier Friday night will be devoted to Army Emergency Relief and the Jackson County War Fund, the former to receive seventy percent and the latter thirty percent.

I. L. Frost has been named chairman of the committee on arrangements and it is planned to reserve all the lower floor seats the price to be \$1.10 with no extra charge for the reservation. These reservations will go on sale Wednesday morning at the Majestic Theater. Balcony seats also will be scaled at \$1.10 with none reserved. The entire program—stage and screen show—will run three hours and should prove one of the highlights of the local theatrical season.

Freeman Field Talent Entertains Rotarians With Music at Meeting

Musical talent from Freeman Army Air Field, arranged by Dr. A. A. Cohn through the Soldiers' Hospitality Center of the First Baptist Church, of which he is director, provided an excellent program at the weekly dinner meeting of the Seymour Rotary Club held Monday night at the Elks' home, West Second street.

During the meeting, in charge of Dr. John L. Prentice, president, Glenn H. Seward, of the personnel division of the Seymour Noblitt-Sparks Industries, Inc., plant, was introduced by Walter L. Surface, chairman of

the Rotary membership committee, as a new member of the club. Six new members were inducted by the club previously at the meeting of November 29.

Harry M. Palmer, chairman of the December program committee, introduced Lt. Charles D. Hale, army emergency relief officer at Camp Atterbury, who announced the county premier of the technicolor production, "This Is the Army", which is to be held at the Majestic Theater Friday night. Lt. Hale announced that a stage show, with talent from Freeman Field such as the fine examples given before the Rotary Club at its meeting, would present an excellent stage show prior to the picture and that seventy percent of the proceeds will go to the Army Emergency Relief Fund and that the remaining thirty percent taken in on the opening night will be contributed to the Jackson County War Fund.

Several excellent musical numbers were presented by an orchestra composed of First Sgt. Forrest E. Breckenridge, Staff

Glider to Air Pilot Is New Officer's Career

Some young men are determined to be up in the air.

Such a one is Lt. George A. Madden, a member of Class 43-K who received his silver wings at Freeman Army Air Field graduation ceremonies Sunday.

Originally a glider pilot student, Lt. Madden took his primary training at Antigo, Wis., his basic at Mobile, Ala., and his advanced at Stuttgart Army Air Base, Stuttgart, Ark. When the glider program was liquidated, still wanting a thrill, he became a parachute technician at Chanute Field, Ill. From there he entered the cadet training program of the air corps, receiving his commission and his silver wings here Sunday. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Madden, Jr., and his sister, Mrs. Gladys Sward, all of Braintree, Mass., were here to attend the ceremony.

Lt. Madden has been assigned to Central Instructors' School, Randolph Field, Texas, and will return to Freeman Field as a flying instructor.

Psi Iota Xi Members Hear Final NCO Report

Mrs. Karl T. Nessler, who was general chairman of the NCO project of the Psi Iota Xi Sorority, presented her final report to the members Monday evening at their December business meeting held with Mrs. George Laupus, Jr., at her home on North Chestnut street.

The sorority assumed the responsibility of furnishing the Non-Commissioned Officers' club at Freeman Army Air Field several months ago and the project has been completed, at a cost of approximately \$800. Among articles purchased by the sorority were fireside furniture for the club lounge, over-stuffed maple furniture, lamps, tables, desks, fitted with lamps and stationery, and a rug for the library, a rug and furnishings for the club office and material for drapes throughout the club.

An attractive powder room also was furnished.

Year's subscriptions to several popular magazines were purchased by the sorority and its most recent gift is a radio-victrola combination which was installed a few days ago. Records for this machine also are to be purchased.

Co-chairmen working with Mrs. Nessler on the project, which is the major undertaking of the sorority to date this winter, were Mrs. Gerald Shibe, financial chairman; Mrs. Harold Hall, in charge of the purchase of furniture; Mrs. Don M. Bollinger, contact chairman; Mrs. Burton F. Swain, Jr., round-up chairman and Mrs. J. Ralph Thompson, who supervised the purchasing of the drapery material.

Mrs. Clyde Huffman, who was chairman of the sorority's recent rummage sale, reported that the

sum of \$110 was realized from this project. Serving with Mrs. Huffman on the committee were Mrs. Durbin Day, Mrs. Fred Robertson, Mrs. H. R. Ringler, Mrs. Ralph Droege, Mrs. J. D. Hardesty, Mrs. Walter Hyatt, Mrs. Honan Willman, Mrs. Louis Cordes, Mrs. Roy Newby and Mrs. John H. Conner.

A report also was made of members who assisted in the recent War Fund Drive canvass in the city. In this group were Mrs. Louis Schaefer, who served as chairman, Mrs. Stuart Blish, Mrs. Arthur S. Kaufman, Mrs. Ralph Droege, Mrs. Honan Willman, Mrs. Miles T. Goddard, Miss Sue Ann Stewart, Miss Barbara Aiken, Mrs. Annette K. Test and Mrs. Roy Newby.

During the meeting Monday evening the sorority voted to purchase a \$10.00 Jackson County T. B. Bond and also to contribute the sum of \$75 to the War Fund Drive.

Announcement was made that the annual Christmas dinner-dance is to be held the evening of December 27 at the Seymour Country Club. Mrs. James Holbrook is general chairman of this event. She will be assisted by Mrs. Paul Ranier, Mrs. Arthur S. Kaufman, Miss Ellen Hardesty, Miss Mary Louise Beatty and Miss Jean Hopewell.

Mrs. Donald Otto was co-hostess with Mrs. Laupus for the evening.

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3 December 1943

Paul Harrison Is Promoted To Major



Major Paul H. Harrison

Seymour, Ind.,—Paul H. Harrison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Harrison, Morrilton, has been promoted from a captain to major at Freeman Army Air Field, two engine advance pilot school, Seymour, where he is intelligence officer.

Major Harrison is a graduate of Plumerville High School and received a B. A. degree at Arkansas State Teachers' College at Conway. He later studied at the University of Missouri. Prior to entering the service Major Harrison was engaged in private law practice in Morrilton.

Prior to being stationed at Freeman he was at Hickman Field, Hawaii.

Mrs. Harrison, the former Beatrice Horne of Pittsburg, is residing in Seymour with her husband.

THE SERVICE WOMAN
10 DECEMBER 1943

Air Wacs Recognized At Freeman 'Retreat'

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., Dec. 11.—Recognition of Air Wacs at Freeman Army Air Field began with a formal retreat today when the women reviewed the troops. Sunday special chapel services will be dedicated to the Air Wacs. Freeman Field is co-operating in "The Army Air Forces Salute the W.A.C." day Sunday.

Notes From Freeman Field

By CPL. HELEN COURTNEY,
AAF WAC Detachment, Freeman
AAF, Seymour, Indiana

"Really a regular guy," is what Pvt. Fay Nix said of Col. John B. Patrick, acting commander of the 30th Flying Wing, whom she drove around the field in a staff car when he visited Freeman Field. He insisted that Fay accompany him into the orderly room of each squadron he inspected, and her voice was a bit hoarse at the end of the day from shouting, "Attention!"

The fiance of Cpl. Aletha Pounds keeps her informed of his whereabouts in an unusual way—he sends her a present from each place he's stationed. Just the other day, she received a bracelet from Sicily. Last August, Cpl. Wayman Williams sent her a pin from North Africa.

Proving that the WACS at Freeman Army Air Field don't need the military conduct and courtesy cards now being issued to all personnel here, are these two little stories.

Pvt. Lillian Oustad, known to all as "Tex," was driving a buck sergeant around the field in a staff car. "Tex" counted 11 salutes—all from WACS. The sergeant returned each salute, but complained that his arm was getting tired.

"Don't shine your brass so high, and maybe you won't have this trouble," "Tex" advised him.

Then there's the one about Cpls. Pearl Boxer and Frances Boyer tell about themselves. They saw a sleek limousine driving up towards headquarters. "Attenshut!" said Frances, and up went the arms into real ship snaps. "At least a general in that number." When the car drew up two bewildered dowagers emerged. The corporals hot-footed it up the road and they've been kidded about it ever since.

Cpl. Adelaide Bishop's sister has joined the Marines.

Pfc. Mamie Smith's five day furlough made one sailor very happy. She went to Philadelphia to be with her husband, Second-class Seaman, James H. Smith, just back from active duty. The last time Mamie saw her husband was last March, when she joined the

WACS the day before he reported for active duty.

"KP has its compensations," sighed Cpl. Fannie Malin, as she rapturously blew out the candles on an enormous white frosted cake. Her day in the kitchen and natal day coincided, and when the mess hall staff found out that it was Fannie's birthday, they baked a cake big enough to feed everyone in the company as the dessert of the evening. However, the big surprise was still to come. When Fannie walked into her barracks, she found on her bed her bunkmates' offerings, namely, five boxes of soap powder, one box of water softener, and a large box of dusting powder.

Clothes make the man. On spotting a group of officers in their "scanties" returning from physical training to the Bachelor Officers' Quarters, one newly arrived WAC asked, "Who are those kids?"

"Those are officers coming back from P.T.," answered one of the veterans.

"Where are their bars?"

"Oh, they've just been chinning on them, I guess."

Giving the WACS at Freeman Army Air Field a lift that only a new frock or hat would have given them in pre-WAC days, was the green and gold service ribbon presented to them by Major William Cox.

"Overseas duty?" "Wounded in action?" "What theatre of operations is that for?" Smiles and chuckles.

To repeat, and to answer these questions once more—the ribbons were presented to every member having had active duty in the WAAC. After the war, these women will be presented with a medal for re-enlisting.

Although many of the women have served more than a year in the WAAC and WAC combined, they are not being awarded the Good Conduct medal, as service in the WAAC is not counted towards that award.

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES
11 December 1943

A soldier and a WAC who met at Freeman Army Air Field, Seymour, Ind., were married recently. They are Staff Sgt. Charles Stegall and Pfc. Audrey Blanchard, who arrived at the field last May with the Army Air Force WAC Detachment.

Wives of Cadets to Be Honored at Party

An informal party is being arranged for Tuesday afternoon at the Cadet Club, South Chestnut street, as a compliment to wives of aviation cadets in training at Freeman Field, and especially to honor wives of members of the new cadet class which entered training last week.

Tables of bridge and other games will be arranged and light refreshments will be served.

Tuesday's party is being arranged by members of the Freeman Officers' Wives' Club, who have sponsored similar get-acquainted functions for cadet wives in the past.

Mrs. Albert E. Hughes, wife of Major Hughes, commandant of cadets at Freeman Field, is the official hostess for the afternoon. Assisting her will be Mrs. Myron Miller, wife of Captain Miller, Mrs. James L. Wing, wife of Lieutenant Wing and Mrs. Larned A. Waterman, wife of Lieutenant Waterman. Captain Miller and Lieutenants Wing and Waterman are flight instructors at Freeman Field. Lieutenant Wing and Lieutenant Waterman are graduates of this field.

Assisting also in the hospitalities will be Mrs. Claire Pruden, the official hostess at the Cadet Club.

WAC Officers Visit Freeman

WAC Major Betty Baudel and WAC Capt. Janet Varn from Army Air Forces headquarters, War Department, Washington, were Freeman Field visitors last week.

The officers, who stopped at Freeman enroute from Stout Field, Indianapolis, to Bowman Field, Ky., inspected the WAC detachment and expressed satisfaction with the work being done by the WACS at Freeman.

Colonel's Mother Arrives For Visit

Colonel and Mrs. E. T. Rundquist have as their house guest, the colonel's mother, Mrs. Emily Rundquist, who arrived Sunday from Harvey, Illinois, for a visit.

Colonel Rundquist is commanding officer at Freeman Field.

Atterbury Trips Freeman, 47-31

The Camp Atterbury basketball team won a 47-31 decision over the Freeman Field Post Team. Displaying superior goal shooting ability and a fast breaking team, Camp Atterbury led 35-15 at the half. Playing for the first time on a court using fan-shaped backboards, the Freeman players lost their shooting eye.

Lefty Wolan nabbed scoring honors for Freeman with 12 points and Josey scored 8 points. Jim Davis played a great defensive game for Freeman with Cecil Davis starring on backboard recoveries. Other Freemanites were Miles, Eaton, Chandler, and Ragusa.

Freeman Field Stage Show Ready

Band, Tap Dancers, Singers, Impersona- tions For Tonight

As the sale of tickets progressed rapidly for tonight's premiere performance of Irving Berlin's technicolor show, "This is the Army", which is to be shown for the first time in Jackson county at the Majestic theater, some of the features of the outstanding stage show which has been developed by talent at Freeman Army Air Field under the direction of Lt. Roland O. Davis, and the special service office, were announced.

The curtain will rise on the stage show at 8:15 o'clock with Cpl. George Goodman, of the special service office, as master of ceremonies. Cpls. Buddy Breeze and Joe Boardman will entertain and Pfc. Thaddeus Ashby will give his reading of a "Tale of Two Cities" which has proved a howling success at Freeman Field.

Also included on the program will be Sgt. Charles H. Crowe, Jr., with his humorous portrayal of a colored parson and the colored troops at the field will present a group of tap dances and singers. The 405th Army Air Forces Band from the field also will take part. Assisting with the direction is Lt. Phillip H. Willon, of the special service office.

Seventy percent of tonight's receipts will go to Army Emergency Relief and thirty percent to the Jackson County War Fund. The theater is being donated for the occasion.

Col. Rundquist Commends WACs

Military Retreat Held Saturday in Women's Honor at Air Field

"I wish to take this opportunity to commend the members of the Women's Army Corps of Freeman Field for the excellent manner in which they have performed their duties," Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, said Saturday when he addressed the military personnel at a formal retreat in honor of the WAC.

The retreat was a part of the ceremonies "The Army Air Forces Salute the WAC" day which was celebrated at Freeman and throughout the nation this weekend. Sunday special chapel services were conducted at the field honoring the WAC, and Colonel and Mrs. E. T. Rundquist and members of his staff and their ladies were guests at dinner at the WAC mess hall.

In his talk to the WACs, Colonel Rundquist said, "One thing in particular I wish to stress is your decorum. Townspeople with whom you have had contact, civilians working here on the post and male military personnel have time and again praised you for you individual and group behavior."

Colonel Rundquist pointed out that members of the WAC assigned to the Army Air Forces are now doing eighty-six different types of jobs, that they are doing them well and are making a definite contribution toward winning the war.

Directing his closing remarks to the entire command, Colonel Rundquist said, "Even though your performance has been satisfactory in the past, I am sure we all realize that we cannot let down. Each day we should dedicate ourselves to exert more effort to perform our assignments better. You must understand that even though your job may at times seem to be a small part of the work here on the field, it is important and it fits into the overall training program. All of us should realize that Freeman Field is one of the vital links in the victory chain that will eventually crush the life out of the Nazi and the Jap war machines."

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE
11 DECEMBER 1943



—Army Air Forces Photo

With Christmas not far away and those in service anxious to send packages to the folks at home, a free gift wrapping service is being provided for men and women in uniform at the special service office at Freeman Army Air Field. Arranged by the Seymour USO, women of the Mother's Service Organization are volunteering their services to "fix 'em up" for those at the field. Pictured above, left to right, are Mrs. Ben Burke and Mrs. W. H. Boicourt, of the MSO, Pvt. Willard E. Anderson, Sgt. Otis Colvard and Pvt. Pauline Burt.

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE
11 DECEMBER 1943

Army Show Is Well Received

An appreciative audience thoroughly enjoyed the Freeman Army Air Field stage show which was given at the Majestic Theater Friday night in connection with the showing of Irving Berlin's technicolor show, "This is The Army." The Freeman Field program was presented under the direction of Lt. Roland O. Davis, and the special service office.

The proceeds from the show were divided between the Army Emergency Relief Fund and the local War Fund. An announcement will be made later relative to the distribution. The management of the Majestic Theater donated the house and equipment.

The specialty acts were cleverly presented and received enthusiastic applause. The program of music by the Freeman Band was repeatedly encored. Cpl. George Goodman acted as master of ceremonies.

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE
11 DECEMBER 1943

Col. Rundquist Presents Award

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Army Air Field, Friday presented a posthumous award to Mrs. Gerald Rabb, of Danville, Ky., in honor of her husband, Tech. Sgt. Gerald Rabb, an aerial gunner who is missing in action in the Mediterranean theater of war.

The awards included the Distinguished Flying Cross, with oak leaf cluster and the Air Medal, with silver and bronze oak leaf clusters, equivalent to two Distinguished Flying Crosses and seven air medals. Four hundred fifty aviation air reserves from Central College, Danville, participated in the ceremonies which were held in the Christian Church at Danville. Many relatives and friends were present.

Major William B. Poe, Freeman director of training and Miss Madelyn Wienhorst, secretary to Col. Rundquist, attended the presentation.

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE
11 DECEMBER 1943

Christmas Dinner For Soldiers in Local Homes to be Arranged by USO

If you are planning to have Christmas dinner on the nights of either December 24, 25 or 26, why not invite two servicemen who must spend the holiday far from home here at Freeman Army Air Field, for Christmas dinner?

That was the question asked today by Bramwell Lundgren, director of the Seymour USO center, and is the same question, probably phrased differently, that will be asked in each of the Seymour churches Sunday by local ministers.

The USO, through the cooperation of the special service office in charge of Lt. Roland O. Davis, at Freeman Field, will make the arrangements for the soldiers to be your guests at Christmas dinner if you would like to entertain them.

On December 15, the Mothers' Service Organization will meet at the USO to wrap packages to be given to each patient at the hospital at Freeman Field. The packages will contain cigarettes, candy nuts, oranges and similar treats.

On December 19, a Christmas pageant will be presented at the USO under the direction of Paul W. Rigsbee, chairman of the December program committee and on December 21, the Knights of Pythias will sponsor a dance at the center. On Christmas night, December 25, a dance with an orchestra will be held and Mr. Rigsbee will conduct a Christmas sing and show slides. On December 31, a New Year's Eve dance will be held.

During December, a dance is being held each Tuesday night, either at the field or at the USO.

When the dance is at the field games are played at the USO. Art classes are held each Wednesday and movies are presented on Thursday nights. Games and a dance are offered each Saturday night with a buffet supper, quiz program and vesper service scheduled for Sunday night. On Monday, Friday and Sunday nights, a committee of two secured from various organizations such as churches and clubs will be at the USO, associating with the boys in uniform, offering to aid in voice recordings, playing games and similar diversions.

BROWNSTOWN BANNER
8 December 1943

Civilians Get Air Force Blue Ribbons

In recognition for six or more consecutive satisfactory service at Freeman Army Air Field, approximately six hundred civilian employees at the field were presented with blue ribbon air corps insignia emblems at special services held at the field last Wednesday. In addition to the awarding of the ribbons, a varied program was given including the showing of a Navy film, "The Battle of Midway", talks by officers at the field and entertainment by civilian employees. Similar programs were held at army air fields throughout the nation that day.

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The grandson of the late Walter Camp, noted sports celebrity and selector of the all-American football team, who graduated last April with the first class of cadets at Freeman Field, was the first member of his class to see overseas service.

In letters to Lt. Charles Cavanaugh, a flight instructor at Freeman, and a former buddy during cadet days here, Lt. Camp writes about flying on missions over Germany. As first pilot on a Flying Fortress, Lt. Camp is based somewhere in England. On his last two missions he was leader of a formation of 15 ships which made it plenty hot for the Germans. He has flown on approximately 15 missions and now wears the U. S. air medal, awarded for combat time.

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he carries a rabbit's foot with him on those missions over enemy territory, for the "Suzanne," the plane on which he went over as a co-pilot on four missions, went down over Germany shortly after he was transferred to a ship called "Slo Joe."

Lt. Camp established an enviable reputation at Yale University, where his father and grandfather also were students. He was on the varsity swimming team and ranked fourth among the country's squash players. Following his graduation from Yale in 1936, he entered the Journalism field in New Haven.

The fame of the first Walter Camp, which is universal, lives again, for Camp's name, along with Knute Rockne, George Gipp and James J. Corbett, now sails the high seas with the Liberty ships.

Mrs. Camp, the former Charlotte Murphy of New York, and the couple's twin sons, Walter, IV, and William Graham Sumner, who resided in Seymour while Lt. Camp was completing his advanced training at Freeman, are living in New Haven, Conn.



—Army Air Forces Photo

With Christmas not far away and those in service anxious to send packages to the folks at home, a free gift wrapping service is being provided for men and women in uniform at the special service office at Freeman Army Air Field. Arranged by the Seymour USO, women of the Mother's Service Organization are volunteering their services to "fix 'em up" for those at the field. Pictured above, left to right, are Mrs. Ben Burke and Mrs. W. H. Boicourt, of the MSO, Pvt. Willard E. Anderson, Sgt. Otis Colvard and Pvt. Pauline Burt.

Freeman Wins From Ft. Knox

Freeman Field's basketball team defeated the Fort Knox team, 45 to 40, Tuesday night at Ft. Knox.

Ft. Knox was leading, 14 to 13, at the end of the first quarter but Tatum, Cecil Davis and Sims poured shots through the hoop for Freeman to lead 31 to 19 at half-time. Ft. Knox rallied in the third quarter to get within three points of Freeman, 30 to 33. The last quarter was a bitter struggle but Freeman came out ahead.

Freeman will play George Field at the post here Thursday night and the Peru Naval Air Station here Saturday night.

13 December 1943

WATERBURY EVENING DEMOCRAT
13 December 1943

Col. Rundquist Commends WACs

Military Retreat Held Saturday in Women's Honor at Air Field

"I wish to take this opportunity to commend the members of the Women's Army Corps of Freeman Field for the excellent manner in which they have performed their duties," Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, said Saturday when he addressed the military personnel at a formal retreat in honor of the WAC.

The retreat was a part of the ceremonies "The Army Air Forces Salute the WAC" day which was celebrated at Freeman and throughout the nation this weekend. Sunday special chapel services were conducted at the field honoring the WAC, and Colonel and Mrs. E. T. Rundquist and members of his staff and their ladies were guests at dinner at the WAC mess hall.

In his talk to the WACs, Colonel Rundquist said, "One thing in particular I wish to stress is your decorum. Townspeople with whom you have had contact, civilians working here on the post and male military personnel have time and again praised you for your individual and group behavior."

Colonel Rundquist pointed out that members of the WAC assigned to the Army Air Forces are now doing eighty-six different types of jobs, that they are doing them well and are making a definite contribution toward winning the war.

Directing his closing remarks to the entire command, Colonel Rundquist said, "Even though your performance has been satisfactory in the past, I am sure we all realize that we cannot let down. Each day we should dedicate ourselves to exert more effort to perform our assignments better. You must understand that even though your job may at times seem to be a small part of the work here on the field, it is important and it fits into the overall training program. All of us should realize that Freeman Field is one of the vital links in the victory chain that will eventually crush the life out of the Nazi and the Jap war machines."



MORRIS E. CLARK

Seymour, Indiana, Dec. 13.—Morris E. Clark of 361 Perkins Avenue, Waterville, was commissioned a second lieutenant and received his silver pilot wings at graduation exercises held recently here at Freeman Army Air Field. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold C. Clark.

Stationed at the same field is First Lieutenant Joseph Baltrush, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Baltrush of 114 Chambers street, Waterbury.

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SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE

13 December 1943

Colonel's Mother Arrives For Visit

Colonel and Mrs. E. T. Rundquist have as their house guest, the colonel's mother, Mrs. Emily Rundquist, who arrived Sunday from Harvey, Illinois, for a visit.

Colonel Rundquist is commanding officer at Freeman Field.

13 December 1943

WAC Officers Visit Freeman

WAC Major Betty Baudel and WAC Capt. Jane Varn from Army Air Forces headquarters, War Department, Washington, were Freeman Field visitors last week.

The officers, who stopped at Freeman enroute from Stout Field, Indianapolis, to Bowman Field, Ky., inspected the WAC detachment and expressed satisfaction with the work being done by the WACS at Freeman.

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE

13 December 1943

Wives of Cadets to Be Honored at Party

An informal party is being arranged for Tuesday afternoon at the Cadet Club, South Chestnut street, as a compliment to wives of aviation cadets in training at Freeman Field, and especially to honor wives of members of the new cadet class which entered training last week.

Tables of bridge and other games will be arranged and light refreshments will be served.

Tuesday's party is being arranged by members of the Freeman Officers' Wives' Club, who have sponsored similar get-acquainted functions for cadet wives in the past.

Mrs. Albert E. Hughes, wife of Major Hughes, commandant of cadets at Freeman Field, is the official hostess for the afternoon. Assisting her will be Mrs. Myron Miller, wife of Captain Miller, Mrs. James L. Wing, wife of Lieutenant Wing and Mrs. Larned A. Waterman, wife of Lieutenant Waterman. Captain Miller and Lieutenants Wing and Waterman are flight instructors at Freeman Field. Lieutenant Wing and Lieutenant Waterman are graduates of this field.

Assisting also in the hospitalities will be Mrs. Claire Pruden, the official hostess at the Cadet Club.

Freeman Wins Boxing Bouts

Freeman Field's boxers won three out of five bouts from Camp Atterbury's maulers in a card at the local post Wednesday night. One of those lost was by default when the Freeman participant injured his thumb.

The local field's excellent record in the bouts was made in spite of the impressive Camp Atterbury coaching staff, which included "Tiger" Flowers and "Tommy" Jackson.

Pvt. Dave Hartupee, of the 447th at Freeman, won a decision from Pvt. Henry Williams, colored, of Atterbury and Pvt. Daniel Scott, colored, of the Freeman 320th, won easily over Pvt. James Lee, colored, of Camp Atterbury.

Pvt. John Mack, of the local 320th, won a heavyweight bout from Pvt. John Walker, of Atterbury.

In the other two matches, Pvt. Art Torrosin, Atterbury, defeated Pvt. Jesse Ellison, Freeman on a default and Pvt. Bill Spencer, Atterbury, outpointed Pfc. Oran Carter of the Freeman 35th.

Five Service Men Honored at Center

Five service men from Freeman Army Air Field were honored at this week's birthday party at the Baptist Soldiers' Hospitality Center. Each was brought greetings from the Center by Dr. A. A. Cohn, director, and was presented with birthday gifts.

Those honored were Lieutenant Willis McQueen, whose birthday anniversary was Tuesday; Captain James W. Fuller, whose anniversary was December 15; Captain Robert Butler and Staff Sergeant Erwin Lexa, who observed their anniversaries on Monday and Pfc. Elmer E. Cooley, who also was observing his birthday Tuesday evening.

Lieutenant McQueen, a native of Dallas, Texas, is an instructor at Freeman Field. Captain Fuller, who was born in Mississippi, also is an instructor and before entering the service was a Baptist minister. Captain Butler, born in Pennsylvania, is a dentist at Freeman Field.

S/Sgt. Lexa, a native of St. Louis, Mo., is radio chief of the 446th squadron at Freeman Field and Pfc. Cooley, whose birth state is Ohio, is a day room orderly.

A large birthday cake was served with coffee during the evening by Mrs. Clifford Reinbold and Mrs. Durbin Day, house mothers, assisted by Wings Betsy Cohn, Lois Taulman and Erma Story.

Guests for the evening were Captain and Mrs. Fuller, Captain and Mrs. Butler, Lt. McQueen, S/Sgt. and Mrs. Lexa, Pfc. Cooley, Pfc. George Thomas, Cpl. George Ansley, Cpl. Victor Walters, S/Sgt. H. O. Carris, Cpl. and Mrs. Leo Barnes, Pfc. Joseph Kelch, Sgt. Robert S. Peters, F/Sgt. and Mrs. F. E. Breckenridge, Miss Betsy Cohn, Mrs. Lois Taulman, Miss Jean Utterback, Miss Erma Story, Miss Roberta Barlow, Dr. Cohn, Pfc. Charles Layman and Miss Holland Carter.

14 December 1943

Former Local Youth Is Training at Freeman

Oscar H. Rueter, age twenty-one, formerly of Seymour, who is now a cadet in training in the U. S. Army Air Corps, has been "sent home", virtually, for the present phase of his training.

Cadet Rueter, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Rueter, 1943 McDonald Avenue, New Albany, arrived at Freeman Army Air Field recently, a member of Class 44-B which is taking advanced twin-engine pilot training here. He is scheduled to graduate and to receive his silver wings in February.

Cadet Rueter is a graduate of Shields High School and before entering the armed forces was a roofing mechanic. He took his primary training at Camden, S. C., and his basic training at Shaw Field, Sumpter, S. C., before his assignment here.

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES

14 December 1943

SOLDIER SANTAS HAVE YULE SPIRIT



Army Air Forces Training Command Photo.

Seymour, Ind., Dec. 14.—Thoughts of home are never very far from a soldier's mind, and especially is this true at Christmas time. Here Sgt. Purlay Freeman selects a toy dog which he's mighty sure will make his young daughter, Ethel, Chapman, Kan., a mighty happy little girl Christmas day. Sergeant Freeman believes in shopping early at the Freeman Field post exchange.

Wright Is Wrong About Being Chaplain At Freeman

Special to The Courier-Journal.
Seymour, Ind., Dec. 16.— Charles E. K. Wright, Negro, Seymour, who, according to State police at Madison, was involved in an automobile collision near Madison December 12, is not a chaplain at Freeman Army Airfield and is not a lieutenant, officials at Freeman Field said today.

Wright has charge of the Negro U.S.O. in Seymour, but has no connection with Freeman Field, officials at the post said.

A report from Madison that Wright had been charged with operating an automobile while

intoxicated after his arrest by State Patrolman Glen Tevis following a collision on Road 7 had said Wright was a lieutenant and a chaplain at the field.

Tevis said at Madison tonight that Wright pleaded guilty to the drunken driving charge in the North Vernon City Court today and was fined \$10 and costs and his driver's license suspended for six months.

Tevis said Wright misrepresented his status when he was arrested after his car collided with an automobile driven by Paul Foxworth, 44, of Madison.

Couldn't Be A Smaller World Than a Foxhole

It took a world conflict to unite two cousins in a foxhole somewhere in the South Pacific theater of operations.

Marine Sergeant Julian F. Lytle, Jr., of Murfreesboro, Tenn., son of Capt. Julian F. Lytle, stationed at Freeman Field Seymour, Ind., and Mrs. Lytle had heard all his life about his second cousin, James Campbell of Humboldt, Tenn., but he never expected to meet him for the first time in a foxhole at the front.

However, Fate has a way of playing strange tricks on people, and Sgt. Lytle one day discovered to his amazement that his foxhole buddy was none other than his cousin. The two became fast friends in short order and now they're writing home about how they met in a foxhole.

Captain Lytle and young Campbell's mother, Mrs. Lytle Campbell, are cousins.

Freemen Swamp George Field

The combination of Davis, Simms and Tatum was too much for the George Field five to cope with in the post gym Thursday night as the Freeman Blue Devils swamped them 46-30.

"Lefty" Wolan started things rolling when he sank one in the opening play of the game. From then on Freeman had everything its own way.

Davis, Simms and Tatum looked unbeatable as they flashed down the court, sinking baskets almost at will. The Freeman were able to maintain a comfortable margin throughout the game holding a 15-7 tally at the quarter and a 25-19 lead at the half.

Simms was high scorer with 17 points, Davis followed with 10 and Tatum accounted for 4.

In a preliminary game the Freeman officers team defeated the Bedford Dairy quintet 39-31.

Freeman Field Talent Gives Program At Lions, Ladies' Turkey Dinner

The regular monthly ladies' night meeting of the Seymour Lions Club was held Thursday night at the Elks home. A large number was present to enjoy a sumptuous turkey dinner with trimmings which was served.

An interesting program, presented by the December committee composed of Lion Alfred Snyder,

chairman, and Lions Harry H. McDonald, Louis E. Meyers and C. H. Englehardt. The program, which was outstanding in its spontaneity, was furnished by talent from Freeman Field, with Lieutenant Roland O. Davis, special service officer, in charge. Lt. Davis presented Cpl. Buddy Breese, who acted as master of ceremonies.

Cpl. Breese presented his entertainers, Cpls. Wilson, Armstrong and Robison, three colored boys who gave a boogie-woogie skit. Following this Cpl. Breese sang two selections, accompanied by Lion Arthur Brethauer, which was followed by accordion selections by Sgt. Peterson. Pvt. Roy Hessen was the comedy heckler. Cpl. Breese and Sgt. Joe Tomey gave several impersonations of famous stars.

CAMP FAME CARRIES ON



Official Army Air Forces Photo.

Lt. Walter Camp III, Wife and Twin Sons, At Seymour.

Walter III 'Dishes It Out' to Nazis In All-American Fashion.

The Times Special Service.

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Freeman Trains WACs for Towers

Control Tower School Is One of First in Country for Airfields

Freeman Field has been selected as one of the first control tower schools for WACs, with twenty WACs at a time to be trained in the course, which will take approximately two months. The WACs are chosen from fields in this region.

Both the theoretical and practical phases of control tower procedures will be presented in the course, which is being conducted by Lieutenant Robert H. Fletcher in conjunction with the WAC Control Tower Training Program within the Second Army Airways Communication Region. The region consists of eight states, Kentucky, North Dakota, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, and Indiana.

The control tower school room has been simulated to represent an actual control tower, and after receiving preliminary instruction in the school room the WACs receive experience in the control tower itself.

Four WACs attending the school at present have been sent to Freeman Field from Baer Field, in Fort Wayne.

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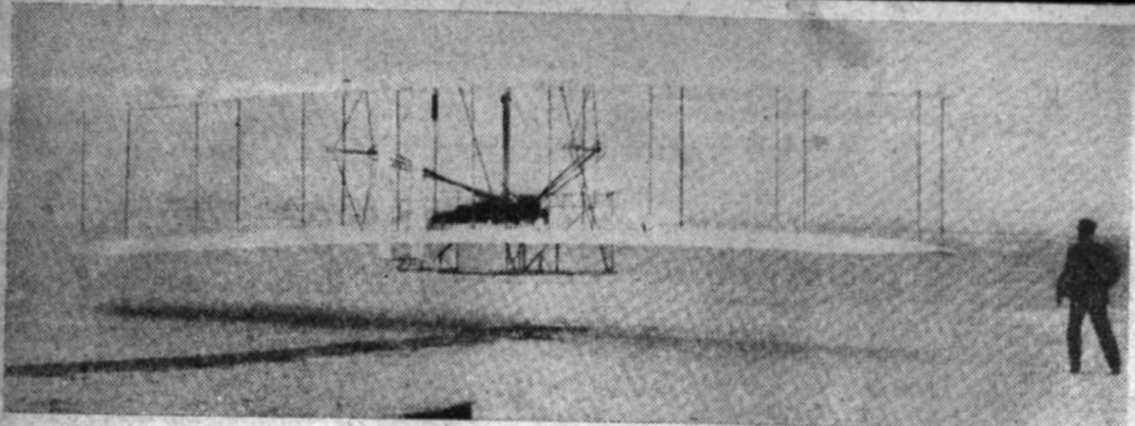
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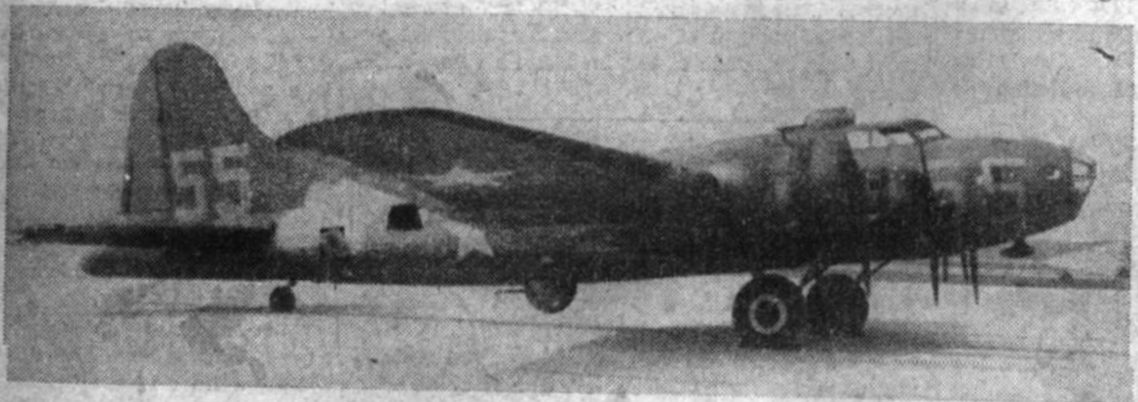
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EVENING OUTLOOK 16 December 1943

Carroll F. Knutson recently received his commission as second lieutenant and his silver pilot wings in graduation ceremonies at Seymour, Ind., Army Air Field. Lieutenant Knutson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Knutson, 11662 Texas Avenue, West Los Angeles.



(Courtesy Orville Wright)



(AAF Training Command Photo)

If the first successful power flight had not been made as shown in the top photo by the Wright brothers at Kitty Hawk, N. C., on December 17, 1903, Freeman Field probably would not be located southwest of Seymour today on the fortieth anniversary of that first twelve-second journey into space. Below is a mighty Flying Fortress, powered with as many engines as the first plane had cylinders, which visited Freeman Field recently and was photographed on the local runway. Changes made in the two score years of flight are graphically shown by a comparison of the two photos.

Contingent of 500 Soldiers Arrived At Freeman Field Year Ago Today

For a number of soldiers stationed at Freeman Army Air Field, today marked the first anniversary of their service in the U. S. Army Air Corps at the local field.

On December 16, 1942, the first contingent of soldiers, 500 in number, arrived at Freeman Field, then designated as the Seymour Army Air Field, for duty and began preparing the large military post for the arrival of the first class of aviation cadets to take instruction in the piloting of twin-engine airplanes.

About half of that first large group, which was sent from Craig Field, Ala., still are stationed at Freeman Field. Some of the soldiers assigned here arrived a year ago on December 8, when the first enlisted men set foot on the local government air field, and observed their first anniversary at the field more than a week ago.

The local field was activated a year ago on December 1 and that occasion was commemorated recently with appropriate ceremonies.



Walter W. Thorne Robt. H. Miller

FREEMAN FIELD, Seymour, Ind.:
Walter W. Thorne, 188 North Third street, Newark; Robert H. Miller, 146 Murray street, Elizabeth.

FREEMAN WAC OPERATES CAMERA



A.A.F. Training Command Photo.

Seymour, Ind., Dec. 22.—In the picture is Pfc. Eva Everett of the Women's Army Corps, one of the Air Wacs at Freeman Field, Seymour, Ind. Native of Forsyth, Mo., she feels that being in the W.A.C. is the best way to help our fighting men. Working

in the base photo-laboratory, she is doing her part and filling one of the many fascinating jobs now available to women in the Army Air Forces. Her husband, Pvt. Emerson Everett, is in North Africa. Her Marine brother is interned at Bataan.

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE

24 December 1943

2 Wacs Pay Taxicab Fare Of Lost Dog

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., Dec. 24.—When Pfc. Mary Kesselman and Pvt. Ruth Miller, Wacs at Freeman Field, returned from town to the field one night recently in a bus, they learned that a small black dog jumped out of the bus with them at the W.A.C. area.

The girls were all for keeping him when they noticed that he wore a collar and license and probably had a home in Seymour. Bedcheck was fast approaching. It was getting colder every moment. What to do? They couldn't leave the poor animal outside to freeze and they couldn't take him inside the barracks—it's against regulations.

A cruising cab, a whistle in the dark, cold fingers fumbling in a purse for fare, and the dog rode back to Seymour sitting proudly alone in the back seat of the taxi.

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES

24 December 1943

Freeman's Children Entertained At Party

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., Dec. 24.—Children of all military personnel at Freeman Field were entertained at a Christmas party yesterday in the post theater. A large Christmas tree was used to decorate the stage and Santa Claus was on hand to distribute gifts to the youngsters.

Members of the committee arranging the affair included Mrs. E. T. Rundquist, wife of Colonel Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman; Chaplain Daniel A. McGuire, Chaplain Phillips B. Henderson, Mrs. Norman R. Wood, Mrs. Julian F. Lytle and Mrs. William Buck.

More Christmas Invitations Needed For Soldiers - - USO Extending Plans

Additions to the program which is being arranged at the Seymour USO Center, South Chestnut street, to make Christmas happy for the men and women in service who are stationed at Freeman Field, were announced today.

At the same time, another appeal was issued by Bramwell Lundgren, director of the center, for local residents to notify the USO, telephone 736, immediately if they can take soldiers as guests for Christmas dinners on either Friday, Saturday or Sunday nights. Arrangements have been made with the special service office at Freeman Field to provide the soldiers for all the

invitations received. Some of the boys may be disappointed on Christmas unless more invitations are received.

So far the response from local citizens has not been great, Mr. Lundgren said, and he asks that anyone desiring to take soldiers notify the USO at once.

A Christmas pageant which will be presented at a Christmas convocation program at Shields High School this week will be presented Thursday night at 8 o'clock at the USO as an added feature of the December USO program, of which Paul W. Rigbee is chairman.

Tuesday night, a dance with
(Continued on page 6, column 4)

Party For Air Cadets Planned

An invitation is being extended to single Seymour young women and wives of cadets at Freeman Field to attend a Christmas party for the cadets Thursday night at 8:30 o'clock in the post gym.

A ten-piece orchestra will furnish music for dancing and refreshments will be served.

Buses which will transport the guests to the field will leave the USO on South Chestnut street at 8 o'clock, returning to Seymour at midnight.

Air Medal For Prisoner Given Parents Here

At formal retreat at Freeman Field Thursday night, Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, presented the Air Medal to Mrs. Henry Bussee of Moores Hill, Ind., in behalf of her son, S/Sgt. Dormand L. Bussee, who is a prisoner of war in Germany. Mr. Bussee accompanied his wife to Seymour.

The citation was made in behalf of the War Department. Dormand had participated in five separate bomber combat missions over enemy territory in Europe and had displayed valor and exceptional ability.

In his presentation, Colonel Rundquist said, "Sergeant Bussee has set a fine example of meritorious achievement by his bravery and resourcefulness to accomplish difficult assignments. You men who may some day follow him into theatres of operation, can use his accomplishments as an example."

Captain William H. McLeod, adjutant, read the citation from the war department. In the retreat ceremonies, Maj. Paul Harrison was group commander, Lt. Donald Dodds was adjutant and Lt. Roland Davis was S-4.

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USO Arranges Holiday Dinners

Thanks to a number of Seymour residents who have issued invitations through the Seymour USO center, 205 South Chestnut street, a number of the enlisted personnel of Freeman Field who don't get to go home for Christmas will do the next best thing—eat Christmas dinner with some local family.

If there is still someone who would like to invite soldiers to share Christmas dinner either Saturday night or Sunday, notify the USO at once and Bramwell Lundgren, director, will arrange with the special service office at Freeman Field to send soldiers to fill the invitation. A number of the soldiers are invited out tonight, the first of the nights designated as "Family Nights" by the USO.

A dance will be given Christmas night at the USO from 8:30 until 11:30 o'clock with the Freeman Field orchestra playing. Treats will be placed at the USO today for the visiting soldiers.

The Rev. E. E. Streufert, pastor of the Immanuel Lutheran Church, will be in charge of the USO vesper service Sunday afternoon. A Christmas quiz and a buffet supper also will be held.

Wednesday night at 8:30 o'clock, the January program committee will hold a planning meeting at the center.

Christmas at Freeman Field

In word and song, Freeman Field will commemorate Christmas at chapel services tonight, and at informal gatherings Saturday.

Midnight candle light services will be held in both chapels tonight, with Chaplain Daniel A. McGuire and Chaplain Phillips B. Henderson in charge. Carols will be sung by choir and congregation and the chaplains will relate the story of Christmas.

Officers and their wives and friends will gather in the Officers' Club tonight at 9 o'clock to decorate the club Christmas tree, with a group from the post band furnishing the music.

Saturday the entire field personnel will enjoy a Christmas dinner of roast turkey. Highlights of the menu include potatoes, giblet dressing, vegetable, rolls, pies, nuts, candy and fruits.

A program of Christmas music will be presented Saturday from 2:30 to 4:30 in the post theater, by the entire complement of the 405th band under the direction of W/O Mitchel Chetel. A quartet from the 320th Squadron will sing and the WAC a capella choir also will offer several selections. Featured vocalists will be Cpl. Joseph Boardman, Cpl. Seymour Brees, and Cpl. George Goodman, from the special service office.

Heralding the Christmas celebration was a party for children of all military personnel held Thursday in the post theater, and a cadet party Thursday night in the gym when civilian young women and wives of cadets were guests. Gifts donated by women throughout the various counties in Indiana were distributed to cadets.

Air Cadets Get Outfits



—A. A. F. Training Command Photo.

SEYMOUR, Ind., Dec. 22 (Spl.)—There's a big day coming at the beginning of January when members of Class 44-A win their silver wings at Freeman field, and take off for air activity against the Axis. Two members of the class are pictured at the post exchange getting a last minute fitting on their new officers' uniforms. Fitting in from left to right are L. A. Boyle, of Seymour, Aviation Cadet Warren Smith, of Hammond, and Aviation Cadet E. V. Wilson, of Blytheville, Ark.

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE
22 December 1943

Freeman Field Patients Made Happy With Red Cross Party at Hospital

Freeman Field patients were guests at a Christmas party on Christmas afternoon sponsored by the Jackson County Chapter, American Red Cross, arranged through Bernard J. Wood, Red Cross field representative stationed at Freeman Field.

Mrs. L. R. Browning, of this city, was chairman in charge of the program and Coulter M. Montgomery was master of ceremonies. Also assisting were Mrs. Marjorie Cordes, executive secretary of the Jackson County Chapter, and the three "gray ladies" who were on duty at the hospital, Mrs. Guy M. Cooper, Mrs. Talmage Cooper and Mrs. J. Avis Hoadley.

The Triads of this city gave a program of beautiful Christmas songs and carols that was outstanding and two tap dancers

and a magician, entertainers from Indianapolis, gave a program. Ernest N. Birge, as Santa Claus, assisted by the gray ladies, distributed gifts to all patients, including the new babies and their mothers, and to all the nurses. Miss Elizabeth Hubbard, of this city, played a number of accordion selections.

The main program took place in the hospital assembly room and Miss Hubbard, the dancer and magician, and Mr. Birge visited the wards of patients unable to leave their beds, with the exception of the contagion ward. Everyone participating entered into the spirit of the occasion, resulting in a very successful party for those shut in the hospital, it is reported. The gifts were partly provided by the Red Cross and Hospital Council.

New Officers at Freeman Field

Assignment of Ground Lieutenants Announc- ed by Col. Rundquist

Arrival at Freeman Field of several new ground officers is being announced by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer.

The men include Lieut. Russell M. Hall of Wichita, Kansas; Lieut. Jesse W. Cogley, Jr., of Pittsburgh; Lieut. William R. Kuttner of New York City, and Lieut. John J. Coyle of Detroit.

Lieutenant Hall, a Protestant chaplain, will serve as assistant to Chaplain Phillips B. Henderson. Lieutenant Cogley is special service officer; Lieut. Kuttner will serve as assistant to Lieut. David M. Lovitt, budget and fiscal officer, and Lieut. Coyle has been assigned to the communications squadron.

Chaplain Hall is married and his wife, the former Anna Oeistler and their children, Richard, two, and Beverly Anne eleven months, reside in Henryetta, Okla. He received his A. B. degree at Oklahoma Baptist university in Shawnee and later studied at Central Baptist seminary in Kansas City, Kansas. He is a member of the Russell, Kansas, Kiwanis club, where he formerly was pastor of the First Baptist church, also serving at one time as assistant pastor of the First Baptist church in Topeka, Kansas.

Lieutenant Cogley's wife, the former Ethel Cornelison, and their four children, Roberta, eleven years; Margaret Ann, nine; Barbara Lee, six and Jesse, III, six months, are residing in Spring Hill, Ala. He received an A. B. degree at Westminster college, New Wilmington, Pa., and has studied at Duquesne Law school at Pittsburgh, and the University of Pittsburgh, where he received a master's degree in education. Prior to entering the service he was associated with the North Braddock, Pa., public school system.

Lieutenant Kuttner received a B. S. degree at the College of the City of New York, where he was a Phi Beta Kappa. Prior to his military service he was a junior accountant for J. S. Handelman, certified public accountant in New York.

Lieutenant Coyle, a native of Toledo, Ohio, attended Central high school there, where he was active in football, and later studied at the University of Detroit. Before entering the service he was an assistant metallurgist at the Detroit branch of the Aluminum Corporation of America.



A.A.F.T.C. Photo.

THERE'LL BE NO RATIONING of Christmas cheer at the station hospital at Freeman Army Airfield at Seymour. Those who added a touch of the traditional Yuletide decoration to one of the hospital wards were, from left, Pfc. Grady J. Brown, Staff Sgt Lee J. Sciliana, Cpl. John M. Parker and Lt. Lorraine Ashley.

29 December 1943

Birthdays Observed At Hospitality Center

A birthday party was held at the Soldiers' Hospitality Center Tuesday night, the honor guests being Pfc. Elsie Kivijarvi and Pvt. Raymond Hayes.

Pfc. Kivijarvi will observe her birthday December 30. Before entering the W.A.C.'s she was employed in defense work. She is an instrument flying instructor at Freeman Field. She was born in Northern Minnesota and is the daughter of Mrs. Siena Kivijarvi.

Pvt. Hayes, son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Hayes, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., will observe his birthday December 30. He entered military service August 10, 1942 and is a cook at Freeman Field.

Birthday greetings were extended by Dr. A. A. Cohn, director, and gifts were presented. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Clifford Reinbold and Mrs. Durbin Day, house mothers, assisted by "Wings" Lois Taulman, Gladys Harris, Roberta Barlow and Holland Carter.

29 December 1943

Watch Party To Be Held at Officers' Club

Officers and their ladies will see the Old Year out at a watch night party Friday evening in the Officers' Club. The post orchestra will play for dancing from 10 o'clock to 2 a. m., and there will be noisemakers and confetti for all the guests.

Although the party is scheduled as a formal affair, those wishing to wear street length dresses may do so.

30 December 1943

New Chief Nurse At Post Hospital

Lieut. Sarah A. Wheeler has arrived at Freeman Field and has assumed her duties as chief nurse at the station hospital.

She is a former resident of Rochester, N. Y., and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard D. Wheeler of Hammondsport, N. Y., where she attended Hammondsport high school. Later she received a B. S. degree at Michigan State college at East Lansing, obtaining her registered nurse certificate at Rochester General hospital.

She also took a four months' post graduate course at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago.

Prior to entering the service Lieutenant Wheeler was supervisor of the new born nursery at Rochester General hospital.

29 December 1943

Cadet At Freeman Field Thank Home Ec Club For Gifts

Mrs. Pruden, hostess at the Cadet club in Seymour asks us to express her thanks and the thanks of the Freeman Field Cadets for more than 300 gifts which were provided by the Home Economics clubs of the county for the Christmas program at the Cadet club on December 22.

These people feel that those of you who provided these very splendid remembrances for men who could not be in their own home at holiday time should know that your kindness and consideration were very much appreciated.

The Cadet club had been suitably decorated for the occasion, and a Christmas tree properly installed by the Freeman Field band.

Special visitors were: Col. Rundquist and wife, Major Hughes, wife and daughters, Lt. Crimmins and wife, and Lt. Waybright, wife and son.

24 December 1943



(AAF Training Command Photo)

Setting the scene for Santa Claus' visit is Pfc. Virginia Kerth, of Freeman Field, as she reads Christmas tales from Dickens to the wide-eyed youngsters who have visions of jolly old Saint Nick. Seated from left to right are Pauline Darling, daughter of T/Sgt. and Mrs. Gordon Darling; Gwendolyn Windham, daughter of W/O and Mrs. Thomas W. Windham, and Billy Poe, son of Major and Mrs. William B. Poe. The two children sitting on the floor are Nancy Butler, daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Robert M. Butler, and Tommy Windham, Gwendolyn's big brother.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
25 December 1943

Freeman Field Greets Adolph From Berlin

Seymour, Ind., Dec. 24 (AP)—Adolph from Berlin has landed at Freeman Field, Army Airfield, but have no trepidation—it is not the notorious Adolf Hitler.

He's Aviation Cadet Adolph Keskes from Berlin, N. J. He plans to bomb Berlin, Germany, some day in the near future.

4 January 1944

Baseball Head Will Speak at Freeman Field

Ninth Cadet Graduat- ing Class to Hear Bruce Dudley, Former Sports Editor, Friday

Bruce Dudley, president of the Louisville, Ky., baseball club and former sports editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, will be the graduation speaker for class 44-A at Freeman Field Friday, January 7.

Class 44-A will be the ninth to be graduated from Freeman Field and will be the first to be graduated in 1944.

Mr. Dudley, a native of Flemingsburg, Ky., became sports editor of the Courier-Journal in 1923, after serving as sports editor of the old Louisville Herald from 1918 to the time he joined the Courier-Journal staff. In 1939 he became the manager of the Louisville ball club.

Was Sports Promoter.

During his years as a sports editor and writer he gained an enviable reputation throughout the country for his promotion of all types of sports. As president of the Louisville ball club, he has been popular with both the fans and the players.

He is an active participant in civic affairs in Louisville.

4 January 1944

Women Pilots Arrive at Field

The first members of the Women's Air Force Service Pilots, known as the WASPs, to be assigned to Freeman Field, arrived today.

They are Miss Iris Heillman, of Kansas City, Mo., and Miss Joalene Snodgrass, of Salt Lake City, Utah. The young women received their flight training at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas, graduating last month after completing a five-and one-half-months' course.

At Freeman they will serve as test and utility pilots, testing planes after repairs have been made and ferrying military and personnel and cargoes on short hops.

4 January 1944

Two New Army Nurses Arrive

Two additional Army nurses have arrived at Freeman Field to augment the corps of nurses already assigned to the station hospital.

They are Lieut. Laura E. Ingram, a former resident of Palatka, Fla., and Lieut. Virginia G. Lovell, whose home is in Blandburg, Pa.

Lieutenant Ingram, a graduate of South Broward high school, Dania, Fla., received her registered nurse certificate at Jackson Memorial Hospital Training School in Miami. Prior to entering the service she was a nurse at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami.

A graduate of Reade township high school in Mountindale, Pa., Lieutenant Lovell is a graduate of Jefferson Medical college hospital in Philadelphia, and before joining the Army Nurse Corps was assistant head nurse at Jefferson Hospital, a private hospital in Philadelphia.

Airfield Aids Told How to Prepare Meat



—Army Air Forces Training Command Photo.

SEYMOUR, Ind., Jan. 1 (Spl.)—Hints on the correct preparation of meat cuts are given Freeman field mess personnel by A. R. Ring, of the national live stock and meat board, who conducted a demonstration at the field recently. Mr. Ring is pictured at the left and Major Ralph E. Hollister, mess supervisor, is standing beside him.

FIRST WASPS REPORT TO FREEMAN FIELD FOR DUTY

SEYMOUR, Ind., Jan. 5 (Spl.)—The first members of the women's air force service pilots, known as the WASPs, to be assigned to Freeman field, arrived Tuesday.

They are Miss Iris Heilman, Kansas City, Mo., and Miss Joalene Snodgrass, Salt Lake City, Utah. They received their training at Avenger field, Sweetwater, Tex., completing a five and one-half months' course recently.

At Freeman field they will serve as test and utility pilots, testing planes after repairs have been made and ferrying military personnel and cargoes on short hops.

Tribute Paid to Missing Air Gunner In Presentation at Freeman Field

Tribute was paid to a Hoosier air sero at a formal retreat ceremonies held Tuesday afternoon at Freeman Field, when Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, presented the Silver Star to Mrs. Olive Woodward, mother of S/Sgt. Willard O. Hunter of Bloomfield, Ind. Mrs. Woodward lives in Linton, Indiana.

S/Sgt. Hunter, missing in action over Germany, was cited for bravery and skill in action while returning from a combat mission over Germany. A left waist gunner on a B-17, Hunter's ship was attacked soon after leaving German coast. Three engines were disabled, two of the gun turrets

demolished and the nose guns silenced.

Heedless of orders to bail out, S/Sgt. Hunter remained at his position, fighting off the attacking planes until a few seconds before the craft hit the water.

In presenting the award to Mrs. Woodward, Colonel Rundquist commented: "I want you to know that all of us are proud of the heroism of your son, a fellow member of the Army Air Forces."

Mrs. Woodward was accompanied by Mrs. Volnie Perkins of Linton, Ind.; Mrs. Jasper Sargent of Bloomfield, aunts of S/Sgt. Hunter, and Mrs. Charles Hunter, a sister-in-law, who reviewed the troops.

Two Aviation Cadets Killed In Crash Here

Plane Burns Following Mishap on Takeoff at Freeman Field During Training Flight

Two aviation cadets were killed Thursday night at Freeman Field when their AT-10 training plane crashed and burned on the takeoff.

The dead:

Erell K. Lohofener, of Oberlin, Kan.

Eugene R. Loreaux, of Dundee Mich.

Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, said the plane was starting on a combat training flight.

Cause of the crash has not been determined but a qualified board of officers is investigating the accident.

Mother Awarded Silver Star for Missing Hoosier

Seymour, Ind., Jan. 13.—(AP)—

The silver star has been presented to Mrs. Olive Woodward of Linton, mother of Staff Sergeant Willard O. Hunter of Bloomfield, who is being cited for bravery and skill in action, it was announced today. Sergt. Hunter is missing in action.

The award, presented by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman field, army air base, praised Sergt. Hunter for remaining at his gunner's post in a disabled Flying Fortress and fighting off attacking enemy aircraft despite orders to bail out.



BRUCE DUDLEY.

Freeman Field Fliers to Hear Bruce Dudley

Speaker Formerly
C.-J. Sports Editor

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Seymour, Ind., Jan. 5.—Bruce Dudley, president of the Louisville Baseball Club and former sports editor of The Courier-Journal, will be the graduation speaker for Class 44-A at Freeman Field Friday.

The class will be the ninth to be graduated from the field and the first in 1944.

Dudley, a native of Flemingsburg, Ky., became sports editor of The Courier-Journal in 1923, after serving as sports editor of the old Louisville Herald from 1918 to the time he joined The Courier-Journal staff. In 1939 he became manager of the Louisville ball club.

Friends and relatives of the graduates will be guests at the graduation ceremonies.

Freeman Now Wasp "Nest."

Freeman Field, with officers, enlisted men, Wacs and civilian employes, now has some Wasps.

The first members of the Women's Airforce Service Pilots arrived at the field Tuesday. They are Miss Iris Heillman, Kansas City, Mo., and Miss Joalene Snodgrass, Salt Lake City, Utah. They received their training at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas.

At Freeman they will serve as test and utility pilots, testing planes after repairs have been made and ferrying military personnel and cargoes on short hops

Mrs. Rundquist Honors Miss Wood at Luncheon

Mrs. E. T. Rundquist, wife of Colonel Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman Field, entertained at a luncheon and miscellaneous bridal shower of attractive appointments yesterday in her home on the post complimenting Miss Nell Ferris Wood, whose marriage to Capt. Phillip N. Igou will be an event of tomorrow at 8 p. m. in the post chapel.

Guests at the affair included 20 friends of the bride-elect.

Miss Wood is the daughter of Major Norman R. Wood, commanding officer of the 35th group at the field, and Mrs. Wood.

A reception in the Officers' club at the air base will follow the ceremony.

Among the out-of-town guests who have arrived for the nuptials include Mr. and Mrs. Francis Joseph Igou of Orlando, Fla., parents of the prospective bridegroom; Mrs. Hubert Holmes, aunt of the bride-to-be, and her son, Hubert, Jr., of Columbus, Miss., and Miss Celia Davis, the maid of honor, Jackson, Miss.

Mary Ellen Rundquist To Have First Birthday

Saturday will be a red letter day for little Mary Ellen Rundquist, who will observe her first birthday anniversary.

Mary Ellen, daughter of Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman Field, and Mrs. Rundquist, was born at Fort Sam Houston hospital, San Antonio, Texas, where Mrs. Rundquist had been residing with her mother, Mrs. F. A. Thompson, and Major Thompson, U. S. Army retired.

Mary Ellen, who will celebrate the occasion at a family gathering, was the first baby born to the family of an officer stationed at Freeman.

Another Air Medal Awarded at Field

The air medal for bravery in action was presented posthumously to Sgt. Oscar L. Rosenberger of Vevay, Ind., at retreat at Freeman Field Monday by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer. The medal was given to Sergeant Rosenberger's father, Louis R., who attended the ceremonies with his younger son, Albert, and several friends from Vevay.

Sergeant Rosenberger was on active duty in the middle east and had completed five operational missions of two and one-half hours duration against the enemy. He lost his life while participating in a bombardment mission in that theater.

"The devotion he gave to his job," Col Rundquist said in presenting the medal, "reflects the highest credit upon himself, his relatives and the armed forces of the United States."

In addition to his son, Albert, Mr. Rosenberger was accompanied to the ceremonies by Robert Gaudin, Harry Weales and Joe Trinkle.

Two at Freeman Named Captains

Promotion of two first lieutenants at Freeman Field to the rank of captain is being announced by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer.

The men are Daniel F. O'Connell, director of the ground school, and Chester A. Brooks, operations officer of Flight Seven.

Capt. O'Connell, a former resident of Milton, Mass., received his Ph. B. and Master's degrees at Boston College in Newton, Mass., and prior to entering the service, was an instructor in mathematics at Mechanic Arts High School in Boston.

A former resident of Rushill, Neb., Capt. Brooks studied at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and later received a B. S. degree at Nebraska State Teachers' College at Chadron. Before entering the air forces, he was a coach and teacher in Wakefield and Cody, Nebr.

Col. J. Keough Is Transferred

Col. John J. Keough, former commanding officer of the 366th sub depot at Freeman Field, has been transferred to a replacement center. Officers selected for replacement centers usually are awarded overseas duty.

Colonel Keough attended Huntington Preparatory School in Boston and Harvard University at Cambridge, Mass., where he received a B. S. degree. He has been stationed at Freeman since April 9.

Mrs. Keough and the couple's son, John, Jr., a student at Shields high school, will remain in Seymour until the end of the school term, when they will return to their home in Beverly, Mass.

Hoosier Flying Officer Honored at Seymour



SEYMOUR, Ind., Jan. 17 (Spl.)—At ceremonies held in the Officers Club at Freeman field Saturday night, an oil painting of the late Captain Richard S. Freeman was unveiled by Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, in the presence of Ab Freeman, father of Captain Freeman; Jim Freeman, brother of the captain, and field personnel. The Freemans are from Winamac.

Participants in the unveiling were, left to right, Jim Freeman, Colonel Rundquist and Ab Freeman.

The painting, which was made from an informal snapshot by the artist, Harry Worthman, of San Antonio, Tex., will eventually become the property of the Freemans, Colonel Rundquist said.

Freeman field is named after Captain Freeman, who lost his life when his "flying laboratory" crashed near Lovelock, Nev., February 6, 1941, on a return trip from Alaska. Captain Freeman, who was founder and at one time commandant of Ladd field, Alaska, was a pioneer in subzero and high altitude flying. The results of many of his

tests in arctic flying are being utilized by the army air forces.

In addition to the contributions he made to aviation engineering Captain Freeman gained fame for his "mercy flights." In 1939 he flew Red Cross supplies to Chile to relieve earthquake sufferers. He later led a mission to the leper colony near Molokai in the South Pacific to remove the remains of Father Damien. He was the recipient of both the Distinguishing Flying Cross and the Mackey trophy. He was graduated from West Point in 1930. Previously he had attended the University of Notre Dame.

Freeman Field Fire Department Rated "Best Trained and Most Efficient"

Freeman Field's fire department is on the ball. Words to that effect were included in a letter recently written to Col. E. T. Rundquist by Lt. Col. B. F. Hatch, director of the Repairs and Utilities branch of the Fifth Service command, commending the men of the fire station here on the excellent record they have achieved.

The fire department underwent an inspection a few months ago by a fire department instructor of the Chief of Engineers. As Mr. Jesse Hutsell, the fire chief, explains, the instructor was im-

pressed but gave no indication of just how impressed he was. In making his report to the Fifth Service Command he made a statement to Col. Hatch that "The fire department at Freeman Field was the best trained and most efficient both in general fire fighting and crash truck operation of any I have seen at any army post in this country in the last three and one-half years." This statement was forwarded to Col. Rundquist with the heartiest commen-

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Cadet Injured In Plane Crash

Accident Occurs at St. Anne Auxiliary Field Near N. Vernon

Aviation Cadet Morris M. Waldman, of Roxbury, Mass., received a broken leg and head injuries when an AT-10 training plane from Freeman Field in which he was an occupant, crashed on take-off at St. Anne Auxiliary Field near North Vernon about 1 o'clock this morning.

The other occupant of the plane, an aviation student, was not seriously injured.

The accident occurred during a combat training flight. A competent board of officers has been appointed to investigate

Courier Journal
30, January 1944

Crash Kills 2 From Freeman

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Seymour, Ind., Jan. 29.—A flight instructor and an aviation cadet from Freeman Army Airfield here were killed in the crash of an Army training plane about five miles east of Columbus, Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman Field, announced tonight.

The dead:

Second Lt. John Albert Gerriets, 23, of Clay Center, Kan., the instructor.

Aviation Cadet Clifford H. Judson, Jr., 19, of Wilson, Conn.

Persons who saw the accident said they heard the plane "roar" and saw it start to spin, then parts of the ship broke off and it crashed. The plane was on a combat training flight.

An official board will investigate the accident, Colonel Rundquist said.

Major Cecil Rogers to Speak at Baptist Center

Major Cecil N. Rogers, post schools officer at Freeman Field, is to be the guest speaker at the Baptist Soldiers' Hospitality Center fellowship hour Sunday evening, according to an announcement made today by Dr. Alvin A. Cohn, Center director.

Major Rogers is a former resident of Huntington, W. Va., and was one of the state's recognized teachers and lecturers in civilian life. He is a graduate of Buffalo, West Virginia, Academy, attended Marshall College at Huntington and Morris Harvey College, Barboursville, W. Va.

Dr. Cohn will present Major Rogers and Mrs. Vance Hill, Mrs. E. E. Walker, Mrs. G. B. Jones, Mrs. Howard Robbins and Mrs. T. Roeger Carter will serve as house mothers for the evening. Refreshments will be served by Mrs. Otto Kain, Mrs. Maurice Harper, Miss Ruth Gregory and Miss Marie Adams.

Another highlight in next week's activities at the Center will be a big party for the service men and women at Freeman Field on Thursday night, sponsored by the Tuesday evening "Wings". Miss Jean Utterback is to be chairman of the arrangements and assisting her will be Mrs. Lois Taulman, Miss Roberta Barlow, Miss Gladys Harris, Miss Betsy Cohn, Mrs. Mayme Breckenridge, Mrs. Ruth Segall, Mrs. Clifton Long and Mrs. L. D. Robertson, as captain. Friday's luncheon hostesses will serve.

William Emhuff again will direct the Monday night activities at the center. Mrs. Arthur P. Carter will serve with him as captain and Mrs. Paul McGuire as luncheon hostess.

Miss Betsy Cohn is to arrange the weekly "Birthday Party" on Tuesday evening. Assisting her will be Mrs. Clifford Reinbold, as

Freeman, DePauw Tangle Tonight

University Pre-Flight Quintet in Game at Shields Gym, 8:30

Tonight basketball fans are in for a real treat at the Shields High School gymnasium when the fast moving Freeman Field quintet meets the Navigators of DePauw University. The game will begin at 8:30 o'clock.

The Navigators, team name for the Navy Pre-Flight school at the university, boasts some of the best court talent developed in the midwest in recent years. Standouts for the visitors will be Bob Cartier, Wisconsin University; Warren Cartier, Green Bay, Wis., and Ralph Weiger, Gary, Ind.

Holding wins over Harlem Globe Trotters, Purdue and Wabash, the Navigators plan to sail through the Freeman outfit, but Lt. Lewis Hilley, coach of the Freeman crew, has plans of his own to stop the champs. He has been giving his cagers plenty of work recently and says they are in first class shape.

Men expected to carry the brunt of the battle for Freeman are C. Davis, J. Davis, Albright, Wolan, Miles, Tatum and Sims.

A preliminary between the 1080th and 467th will explode at 7 o'clock.

Col. Keough Goes to Replacement Center

The Times Special Service.

Seymour, Ind., Jan. 22.—Col. John J. Keough, former commanding officer of the 366th sub depot at Freeman Field, has been transferred to a replacement center. Officers selected for replacement centers usually are awarded overseas duty.

Mrs. Keough and son, John, Jr., student at Shields High School, will remain in Seymour until the end of the school term.

NCO Club Dance Benefit Is Open

The non-commissioned officers club at Freeman Field is getting right in step with the "March of Dimes" and will swing along with the rest of the nation Monday night, January 31, to celebrate President Roosevelt's birthday with a gala dance. The entire proceeds of the dance will be turned over to the local chapter of the president's favorite charity—the Infantile Paralysis Fund.

The club house has been thrown open to all-comers and a general admission price of "four dimes" will be charged to all members, officers, enlisted men and civilians alike. Tickets for the dance will go on sale in Seymour late this week.

All proceeds collected from the sale of tickets, profits accrued from cash sales on Monday night will be turned over to the "March of Dimes". In addition the post orchestra has agreed to forego its usual fee for playing at the club and will turn its pay over in the same manner. Hats and coats will be checked for a fee and this money too, will be turned in to the Infantile Paralysis Fund.

A dance committee consisting F/Sgt. Al Schwartz, T/Sgts. Forrest E. Durey, Abe Miller and S/Sgt. Lawrence Sullivan have been appointed by the president of the club, T/Sgt. Frank B. Masterson, and have arranged a special program of all-soldier entertainment for the evening. The acts will include some of the better numbers from the recent series of squadron shows.

The officers and men of the NCO club have set the goal of \$1,500 as the amount they will make as their contribution to the "March of Dimes."

Seymour Daily Tribune
31, January 1944

Instructor, Cadet Die in Plane Crash

Freeman Board Investigates Accident Near Columbus—Escorts Leave for Funerals

Funeral arrangements are being made in Kansas and in Connecticut for a flight instructor and an aviation cadet from Freeman Field who were killed in an airplane accident five miles east of Columbus Saturday afternoon. News of the crash was announced by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field.

The dead:

Second Lieut. John Albert Gerriets, age twenty-three, of Clay Center, Kansas.

Aviation Cadet Clifford H. Judson, age nineteen, of Wilson, Conn.

Witness Describes Mishap.

Jack Huffman, son of Lewis Huffman, on whose farm the plane crashed, said he heard the plane "roar" and start to spin. Later parts of the ship came off before it crashed.

The plane, an AT-10, was on a routine training flight.

A board of qualified officers is investigating to determine the exact cause of the accident.

Attended Church Here.

Lieut. Gerriets had made many friends in Seymour since being stationed at the local field. He was regular in his attendance at services of the Immanuel Lutheran Church here and possessed a pleasant and friendly disposition which endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. Escorting his remains to Clay Center where his mother, Mrs. Theodore Gerriets, survives, is Lt. Donald Goldfain, of Gering, Nebraska.

A/C Judson's survivors include his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford H. Judson, Sr. Accompanying his remains to Connecticut is Aviation Cadet Kenneth J. Cahill, of Whitinsville, Mass.

Seymour Daily Tribune
31, January 1944

Two Promoted to Rank of Captain

Promotion of two flying officers former first lieutenants at Freeman Field, to the rank of captain is being announced by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer.

The men include Capt. Ernest W. Elston, assistant director of instrument training, and Capt. Douglas Michel, operations officer of Flight Three.

Captain Elston, a former resident of Jackson, Tenn., is a graduate of Union university in Jackson, where he received a B. S. degree. He is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon national fraternity and the Jackson Elks' club. Prior to joining the service he was employed by a law enforcement agency in Jackson.

Before entering the service, Captain Michel resided in New York City where he was a bank clerk at the New York Trust company. He is a graduate of Theodore Roosevelt high school in the Bronx.

Seymour Daily Tribune
1, February 1944

Perfect Records For 3 Employes

To three civilian employes at Freeman Field absenteeism is something they read about in the newspapers.

The Field's "100 per centers" are Benjamin F. Ames, 732 Pershing street, of the post engineers; William R. Rahal, 349 Calvin Boulevard, sub depot supply, and Albert A. Turek, 619 North Walnut street, ordnance department.

During 1943 the trio worked every week, six days a week, without a vacation or a day's sick leave.

Seymour Daily Tribune
2, February 1944

Local Soldiers Escape Injury

Four soldiers from Freeman Field, Seymour, escaped serious injury in a spectacular automobile accident Monday night on the north Washington road, near Columbus, directly north of the Road 31 by-pass, according to Columbus press dispatches.

Their car struck the concrete abutment of a culvert, hurtled through the air for a distance estimated at forty-five feet, and with its front wheels wrecked, made a "belly landing," skidded 135 feet down the road and into a field before stopping in a ravine.

Occupants of the car, George S. McClure, A. J. Mitchell, John Lakey and Robert Blackwelder, all of Freeman field, were taken to the Bartholomew County Hospital and later sent to the Freeman Field hospital.

It was reported that none was seriously injured. Private Blackwelder of South Carolina, owner of the car, a 1938 model sedan, visited the scene of the accident Tuesday.

Blackwelder said Mitchell was driving and that they were on their way to Indianapolis. All had three-day passes.

Asked how fast the car was traveling, Blackwelder said he did not know but that it was capable of doing 100 miles per hour, the Columbus newspaper said.

An eight-foot strip of the concrete culvert was broken off and dumped to the ground below. Front wheels of the vehicle were apparently wrecked when the car struck the culvert.

Had the car landed short of the estimated forty-five feet it went through the air, it would have overturned down an embankment. It did not turn over in the wild ride.

Only one glass in the vehicle was broken and the interior was not badly damaged. The front was demolished.

A couple of the men were apparently thrown out of the car before it came to a stop.

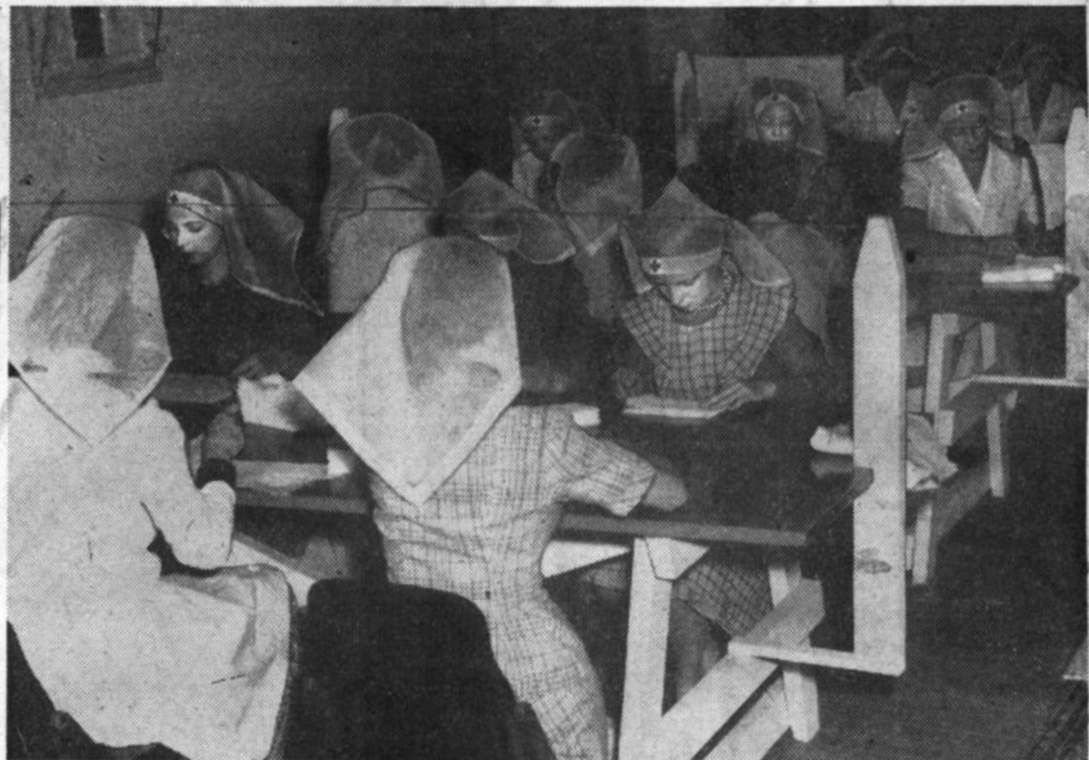
State and city police and the sheriff answered calls to the scene.

Blackwelder said he had no insurance on the car and had obtained new license plates only Monday.

Damage was estimated at about \$500.

Louisville Times
2, February 1944

OFFICERS' WIVES PREPARE BANDAGES



The Times Special Service.

Army Air Forces Training Command Photo.

Freeman Field, Ind., Feb. 2.—While their husbands are doing their part for Uncle Sam, officers' wives at Freeman Field are busy rolling bandages which some day may save the life of an American soldier overseas. During one month the women completed 11,500 surgical dressings for the Red Cross. Mrs. E. T. Rundquist, wife of Colonel Rundquist, commanding officer, is president of the Woman's Club, which has been instrumental in organizing the various Red Cross classes.

Seymour Daily Tribune
3, February 1944

Bo McMillin Will Speak at Freeman Field

Indiana U. Football Coach Selected to Give Cadet Graduation Address Tuesday

Bo McMillin, coach of the football team of Indiana University since 1934, will be guest speaker for the graduation of another class of aviation cadets at Freeman Field at exercises to be held next Tuesday, February 8, it was announced today.

The ceremony will be held in Hangar Five at the field at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning.

Preceding the graduation, an "invitation" dance will be held Monday night in Hangar Five.

All-American in 1919.

Coach McMillin, an All-American quarterback in 1919 has since held an important spot in the sports limelight. His coaching career has a record of 106 victories with only sixty-one losses. In 1927, Mr. McMillan realized the dream of every coach when he piloted the Geneva College eleven through ten straight victories.

He has spoken in Seymour on several different occasions and always has made a speech that is outstanding in its sincerity, content and delivery. A keen student of the game of football and of life he possesses many qualities that have made him one of football's most colorful figures.

A number of relatives and friends of the graduating cadets are expected to be arriving in Seymour soon to be present for the graduation ceremonies.

Seymour Daily Tribune
5, February 1944

Polio Fund Given \$1,031.75 By NCO

Dance Given at Freeman Field Results in Large Contribution

The largest single contribution made to Jackson County's infantile paralysis fund has been turned over to Gerald Shibe, of this city, chairman of the county drive, by representatives of the Non-Commissioned Officer's Club at Freeman Field.

The money, amounting to \$1,031.75, enough to make a silver streak of dimes 607 feet long, represented the proceeds of a President's birthday dance at the NCO Club Monday to which the public was invited and admission was granted to the field by ticket to the benefit dance.

Officers of the club were amazed at the unusually large crowd, which was estimated at about 1,100 people.

The money included \$787.45 from the sale of tickets and from other funds taken in at the dance, including collections from "March of Dimes" coin boxes and checking at the cloakroom. The orchestra donated its services. A complete floor show which had been scheduled could not be given because of the failure of the public address system.

Indianapolis News
2, February 1944



HOOSIER HELLO—A real morale booster is the portable pay telephone recently installed at the station hospital at Freeman field, Seymour. Pfc. Sidney Levinstim, of the Freeman band, whose home is in Yonkers, N. Y., smiles broadly as he places a call to a girl friend via the new 'phone. The brain child of Captain Christian J. Hilliard, post signal officer, the telephone is mounted atop a rolling cabinet and boasts a long extension cord so that it can be moved from bed to bed.

S.A. ARTIST PAINTS FAMOUS MERCY FLYER



PUTTING THE FINAL TOUCHES ON A PORTRAIT of the late Capt. Richard S. Freeman, Harry Worthman, San Antonio artist, is shown in the above picture completing work on the portrait he painted for the officers' club at Freeman Field, Ind. —Evening News Photo.

A portrait painted by Harry Worthman, San Antonio artist, has been unveiled at the officers' club at Freeman Field, Ind., named for the late Capt. Richard S. Freeman of whom the painting was made.

Worthman, who had gained a name as a painter in New York before coming to San Antonio two years ago, painted the portrait from an informal snapshot which had been submitted to him.

Worthman, now in the army and stationed at the Fort Sam Houston Reception Center, studied in New York at the Art Students' League and the National Academy of Art and taught art at

New York State Teachers' College.

Mrs. Worthman resides here at 1815 San Pedro Ave.

Freeman, who was killed in the crash of his "flying laboratory" near Lovelock, Nev., on Feb. 6, 1941, was noted for his contributions to aviation engineering, his work as a pioneer in sub-zero and high-altitude flying, and mercy flights to Chile and to Molokai in the South Pacific.

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman Field, presided at the unveiling ceremonies at the officers' club. Rundquist is a son-in-law of Mrs. F. A. Thompson, 238 Army Blvd.

Indianapolis News
Feb. 14 44

Seymour Daily Tribune
Feb. 16th 44

178 Give Blood At Air Field On First Day

When the mobile Red Cross blood bank unit set up at Freeman Field Tuesday to remain four days to collect blood plasma for aid in saving lives of fighting men on the battle fronts, 178 members of the field personnel donated their blood during the first day's activity.

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, was the first donor Tuesday.

Wives of members of the field personnel, members of the cadet corps and registered nurses of the Seymour Red Cross are assisting with the operation of the center at the field.

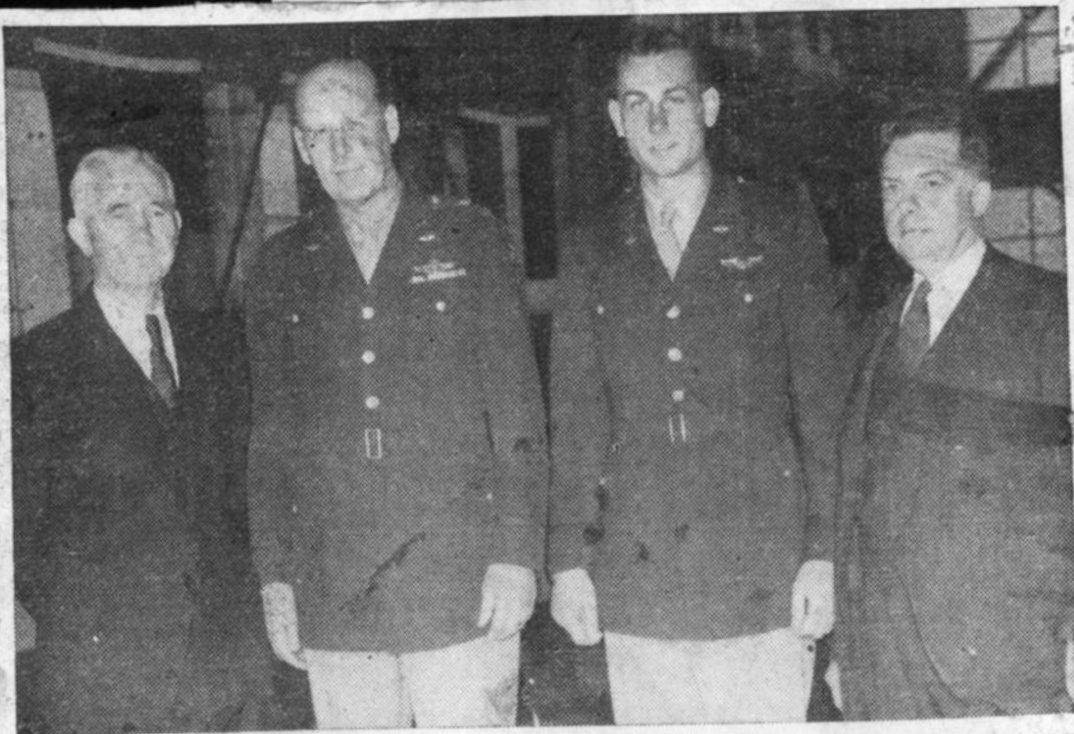
All military and civilian personnel on the field are eligible to give their blood.

The mobile unit, which will remain through Friday, is in charge of Lt. (j. g.) R. L. Foster, medical officer of the U. S. Navy.



FLYERS' VALENTINE—Enlisted men of Freeman field, near Seymour, look on Corporal Ruth Howe of the women's army corps as their valentine. A native of Robinson, Ill., she is a student in the radio control tower school for WACS. Women like Corporal Howe, who have joined the services, are worth fighting for, the men at Freeman field assert. (A. A. F. Training Command Photo.)

Indianapolis News
10, February 1944



HOOSIER PILOTS ADVISED—"You men must be strong of heart and confident," Coach A. N. (Bo) McMillin told the graduates of Class 44-B at Freeman field, Seymour, in ceremonies held at the field Tuesday. Freeman is a two-engine advanced pilot school. Coach McMillin is shown at left. With him, left to right, are Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of Freeman field; Second Lieutenant Robert Hines, Ft. Wayne, a graduate, and Ross Bartley, director of the news bureau, Indiana University. (A. A. F. Training Command Photo.)

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE
17 February 1944

Wing Commander Visits Freeman

Col. J. B. Patrick, commanding officer of the 30th Flying Training Wing, arrived at Freeman Field Wednesday on an official visit. He is expected to remain here for several days.

Accompanying Col. Patrick on his visit are Majors R. B. Collings, W. Shackelford and S/Sgt. Epper-son.

Col. Patrick's headquarters are at Columbus, Miss.

McMillin Says Courage, Will Is Necessary

"Do or Die" Spirit Required in Both Flying and Football, Coach Tells Graduates

Striking a comparison between flying and football, Alvin N. "Bo" McMillin, head football coach at Indiana University, Bloomington, at graduation exercises today at Freeman Field, cited courage and the will to "do or die" as factors akin to both aviation and sports.

Speaking to members of Class 44-B, who received their silver wings and commissions, Coach McMillin said that in football the determination to play the game well, courage and confidence are traits which are necessary. The same traits are characteristic of pilots.

Stressing the courage required in the perfection of any great feat Mr. McMillin cited the case of the intrepid flier, Col. Cass Hough of Plymouth, Mich., whose experiments with the P-38 were responsible for making it the fighting ship it is today. In a mock battle in England with a Spitfire, the P-38 lost the first round, but after extensive improvements were made by Col. Hough and his mechanics, it won in the second test. Not only did it win out over the English Spitfire, but in a mock battle with a captured German Focke-Wulfe and a captured Messerschmitt, it also proved to be the better of the two.

Urging the graduating airmen to be strong of heart and confident, the speaker concluded his talk on the note that confidence and determination can surmount all odds.

Mr. McMillin, who first gained fame as a member of the famous little football team from Centre college at Danville, Ky., which defeated Harvard University in the days when Harvard produced power-house pigskin machines, was introduced by Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman.

Among those to whom Major William B. Poe, director of training, presented silver wings were Lieut. Oscar H. Rueter and Lt. Wendell W. Crews, a student officer.

Lieutenant Rueter is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman H. Rueter of New Albany, Ind., and formerly lived in Seymour, where he was graduated from Shields high school.

Lt. Crews is the son of Mrs. W. E. Mills, residing at 604 North Poplar street. His wife, Mrs. Mary A. Crews, also resides there. Having already had his lieutenant's bar prior to his flight training, he was presented with his wings today.

The oath of office was administered by Major Albert E. Hughes, commandant of cadets, with Chaplain Daniel A. McGuire giving the

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—(AAF Eastern Training Command photo)

Checking of blood pressure was one of the important preliminary steps to donating blood at the Red Cross blood bank which was at Freeman Field four days this week. Sgt. Joseph Wilensky is being checked while Cpls. Dewey Mason, William Hoefler and Sgt. Jack Miller await their turn. Sgt. Miller knows the value of blood plasma, as he saw it save the life of many American fighting men while he served as an armorer for a fighter squadron on Guadalcanal.

Total of 983 Pints of Blood Donated During Unit's Freeman Field Visit

When the Red Cross Blood Bank made a four-day visit to Freeman Field this week, ending Friday, 983 pints were donated

for the precious blood plasma to save the lives of boys on the fighting front, it was learned today.

Civilian personnel, enlisted personnel, officers and members of the WAC at the field contributed. Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, was the first donor.

The blood bank's visit at the field was arranged and all expenses paid by the Jackson County chapter of the American Red Cross. Bernard J. Woods is Red

Cross director at Freeman Field. L. H. Van Voorhies is chairman of the blood donor service for Jackson county.

Officers of the Red Cross expressed their appreciation to the canteen groups, hostesses, nurses and nurses' aides, registrars and all who assisted in the four-day visit of the unit here.

Mrs. L. R. Browning was in charge of arrangements and personnel and Mrs. Arthur Vogel was in charge of nurses. Mrs. Wilbur F. Biggs headed the registrars and Mrs. T. E. Ross was head of the hostess group. Mrs. Ed Auffenberg was head of the canteen service and Mrs. E. T. Rundquist was in charge of the wives of military personnel who assisted each group.

The visit is the second to Freeman Field, the first being held last August. The last visit was judged the most successful, with the number of donors being much larger.

A direct lineal descendant of Daniel Boone, Pvt. Divine was not going to sit back during this war and allow an enviable family tradition be broken, for immediate members of the Milburn and Divine families have participated in every American war—Revolutionary, Civil, Spanish-American and World War I. She is the only member of either family eligible to participate in World War II.

Her great-grandfather was an officer under Mad Anthony Wayne in the Revolutionary War, while her great-grandfather Divine was an Army doctor in the same war. Grandfather, Capt. W. E. F. Milburn, at seventeen years of age, was a member of the Union Army, and grandfather, Dr. W. N. Divine was a surgeon in the Medical Corps of the Union Army. Her father, Major Paul E. Divine, deceased, fought in the Spanish-American War and was a reserve officer in World War I.

Although Pvt. Divine's mother, Mrs. Lulu Divine, Johnson City, Tenn., hasn't been able to serve as a member of the armed service, she has done her part for her countrymen. She is believed to have been the first woman postmistress of a first class postoffice in the United States, a job she held for thirteen years.

Attending AACS WAC Control Tower School here, Pvt. Divine finds that the course she took in pre-WAC days at the Airway Traffic Control School of CAA at Candler Field, Ga., is a great help in learning the "Army way." In addition to this school, she has attended East Tennessee State college for three years and then completed a two-year art course at William and Mary college.



—AAF Training Command Photo.

This trunk in which Pvt. Milburn Divine, of the WAC detachment at Freeman Field, keeps the flag of her home state of Tennessee, saw service with the army of George Washington, whose birthday is being celebrated today. It also has been carried through two other wars. The flag was presented to her by Sgt. Alvin C. York, hero of World War I.

Trunk Which Served Washington's Army Is Being Used by Freeman Wac

"This is the fourth war it's been through," said Pvt. Milburn Divine of the WAC Detachment at Freeman Field, as she unpacked her antique brown rawhide covered trunk. "It started in the same war in which George Washington rose to fame,—the Revolutionary War, and it has also been carried through the Civil and Spanish-American Wars, by members of my immediate family."

The trunk, which is about one-third the size of a GI footlocker, is lined with French hand-blocked rose and ivory paper, and has

handwrought handles and lock of iron. It is in an amazingly fine condition considering its age, and the territory it has covered. In fact, one Wac upon reviewing it, remarked: "Why it's in better condition than my suitcase, which was brand-new when I entered the service, a year and one-half ago!"

York Presents Flag.

Lying proudly in the trunk is the flag of the state of Tennessee which was presented to Pvt. Divine by Sgt. Alvin C. York, the day she was sworn into the WAC—the first enlistee to be assigned to the Air Wac in Tennessee during the current drive to get women for the Army Air Forces.

A direct lineal descendant of Daniel Boone, Pvt. Divine was not going to sit back during this war and allow an enviable family tradition be broken, for immediate members of the Milburn and Divine families have participated in every American war—Revolutionary, Civil, Spanish-American and World War I. She is the only member of either family eligible to participate in World War II.

Her grandfather, Capt. W. E. F. Milburn, at seventeen years of age, was a member of the Union Army, and grandfather, Dr. W. N. Divine was a surgeon in the Medical Corps of the Union Army. Her father, Major Paul E. Divine, deceased, fought in the Spanish-American War and was a reserve officer in World War I.

Although Pvt. Divine's mother, Mrs. Lulu Divine, Johnson City, Tenn., hasn't been able to serve as a member of the armed service, she has done her part for her countrymen. She is believed to have been the first woman postmistress of a first class postoffice in the United States, a job she held for thirteen years.

Attending AACS WAC Control

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Gable in Same Group.

Capt. Clark Gable was assigned to the same bombardment group, and Thomas' ship was along on several of the missions in which the captain participated.

Thomas participated in the Schweinfurt raid in which sixty Fortresses were reported to have been lost. "The flak," he says, "was so heavy that you could almost get out and walk on it." It was on this mission that Thomas had several close calls. The sky was filled with German fighters and American Fortresses. Also present were those tough Yankee fighters, the P-47 Thunderbolts. The sergeant has heard of those who sing the praise of a P-38, but he'll place his money on a P-47 anytime. "We were deep in enemy territory and I was pecking away at my "typewriter" when I saw a P-47 sweep up from my right with his guns firing full blast. I turned to see what was up and as I did a German slug clipped the left shoulder of my flying suit. That Thunderbolt was after a Nazi fighter which was raking the entire length of our ship. If it hadn't been for the P-47 and the fact that I turned around, I would have been hit in the chest." Upon returning to his base in England, Thomas unstrapped his parachute and found a hole in the covering. Probing with his finger he found a piece of flak imbedded in the folds. He carries the metal as a good luck piece today.

Gets Third Nazi in Prussia

While over England in East Prussia, Thomas got his third ship. This time it was an Me 110—one of the latest two engine Nazi fighters. Several other raids followed, both over the continent and Norway. Each time the "Cattle" returned safely from the mission with all crew members accounted for. In all of the twenty-five raids not one of the men on the Fortress was scratched although they took part in some of the hottest actions of the war over the continent.

T/Sgt. Thomas is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold W. Thomas of 57 Judson St., Canton, N. H., and has two brothers in the service. Cpl. Harold Glenn is an aerial photographer at Will Rogers Field in Oklahoma and the other, Leonard, age 17, is a petty officer third class, gunners mate in California. He left Thursday to become a gunner instructor in the air corps.

Veteran, Decorated Tail-Gunner Was Lecturer to Cadets at Freeman Field ..

Wearer of the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters and veteran of twenty-five bombing missions over Nazi-held Europe, T/Sgt. Everett C. Thomas has been resting between rounds at Freeman Field, but is still very much in the fight.

A "tail-end Charlie" on the Flying Fortress "Gremlin Castle," Thomas had a ringside seat for over nine months as the Eighth Air Force wrecked havoc and destruction on Germany. From his perch he was also able to observe the tactics used by the Luftwaffe in trying to stave off the sledge hammer blows on the industrial cities of the Reich. All of this first hand knowledge was passed on to the officers, cadets and enlisted men at the field as

Thomas held forth in his weekly orientation lectures. These lectures are invaluable, for the very men listening and learning are those who will form the component parts of the tidal wave which will engulf Germany and all of the conquered countries of Europe in the very near future.

Thomas Is Unassuming

Sergeant Thomas, like all men who have returned from combat, is quiet and unassuming. It is only after close questioning that one learns the real meaning of the decorations he wears beneath his gunner's wings. He has three German planes to his credit, but shrugs it off with, "They were coming in at me and I was lucky enough to get in the first burst."

Thomas was credited with his first plane when the "Gremlin Castle" was on one of those shuttled bombing runs over Hamburg last summer. "We were cruising along at about 25,000 feet," relates Thomas, "when a ME-109 broke through our fighter cover. He made a couple of passes at our ship, and sprayed us with lead each time. Then he swung around and came directly at the tail. I played possum until he was about 100 yards away and then I let him have it. The guns," recalled the sergeant, "caught him square on and the plane blew up in mid-air."

Still another ME-109 was to feel the sting of the "Gremlin's" tail guns. This time the action was over Kassel, Germany. Thomas doesn't recall much of the engagement except that the single engine fighter caught fire and the pilot bailed out. Credit for downing his second enemy plane, coupled with the fact that he had completed fifteen missions earned Thomas the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was awarded the medal on Oct. 3, 1943.

Gable in Same Group.

Capt. Clark Gable was assigned to the same bombardment group, and Thomas' ship was along on several of the missions in which the captain participated.

Thomas participated in the Schweinfurt raid in which sixty Fortresses were reported to have been lost. "The flak," he says, "was so heavy that you could almost get out and walk on it." It was on this mission that Thomas had several close calls. The sky was filled with German fight-

Freeman Field Personnel "All Out" In Red Cross Drive to Raise \$10,000

Freeman Field personnel are one hundred per cent for the 1944 Red Cross War Fund Drive, according to an announcement made today by field officials. The goal for Freeman is \$10,000, one-half of the Jackson county goal.

To date \$3,039.28 has been contributed. The personnel of the field have been separated into five groups for the drive—enlisted personnel, civilians, cadets, pre-aviation cadets and officers.

Already the cadets have over-subscribed their goal of \$750 and the enlisted men and women have almost reached their goal of \$2,000. Contributions from officers are beginning to come in and it is believed they will exceed their goal of \$3,150. Civilians whose quota is \$2,600, will be contacted later in the month.

To keep personnel of the field

informed on the progress of the campaign, an eight-by-nine foot sign was constructed and placed in front of headquarters. In the form of a graph and barometer, it shows the day by day progress of the teams and the total amount received from the five divisions.

The campaign, which has the wholehearted support of Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, has been advertised to personnel through various mediums including "plugs" between shows at the post theater, speeches by field personnel, small and large group meetings, and the field publications, Spot News, daily morning edition, and Twingine Times, official weekly publication.

Lt. Col. Harry Leake of the Quarter Master Corps, is the chairman in charge of the drive.

INDIANAPOLIS NEWS
28 February 1944



LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON—Howard Rundquist, 17, elder son of Colonel and Mrs. E. T. Rundquist, recently took the first step in duplicating the colonel's Army flying career when he was sworn into the air corps enlisted reserve by his father.

Colonel Rundquist is commanding officer of Freeman army airfield, two-engine advanced pilot school near Seymour. Howard, who is an outstanding athlete at Shields

High School, Seymour, will be eligible for duty with the Army Air Forces after his eighteenth birthday. (A. A. F. Training Command Photo.)

3 March 1944

First Anniversary of Flying Training Is Being Observed at Freeman Field

Personnel at Freeman Field today are recognizing the first anniversary of the beginning of the flying training program at the field, a two-engine advanced pilot school.

Freeman which has made an enviable record, is one of the many fields of the vast Army Air Forces Training Command with headquarters at Fort Worth, Texas. Freeman is in the Eastern Flying Training Command of the AAFTC, with headquarters at Maxwell Field, Ala. The two other training commands are the Central and Western.

The AAF Training Command has trained the world's greatest air force, now numbering more than 2,300,000 officers and enlisted men.

From January 1, 1939, to November 30, 1943, it has trained 100,799 pilots, 20,086 bombardiers, 18,805 navigators, 107,218 aerial

flexible gunners and 555,891 ground and air combat crew technicians.

Hundreds of cadets who have flown many hours, have been graduated from Freeman. There are two classes of cadets at the field, an upper and a lower, with an upper class being graduated about every four and one-half weeks. Students remain in the advanced training phase for approximately nine weeks. When they are graduated they receive their silver pilot wings and are commissioned second lieutenants or are made flight officers.

After graduation the men attend transitional schools preparing them for combat. Some of the graduates become instructors.

In a letter to the military and civilian personnel of the field, Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, who came to

Freeman during the construction period, commended the personnel for the part they had played in the training program, and urged them to continue to give extra time and energy to their work.

Major William B. Poe, director of training, has held his assignment since February, 1943, when he reported to the field. For eight years, prior to his military service, he was a pilot for Eastern Airlines, serving three years on the Chicago to Atlanta run.

3 March 1944

Freeman Field Sets Goal Of \$10,000 In '44 War Fund Drive

Seymour, Ind., March 3—Freeman Field personnel are 100 per cent for the 1944 Red Cross War Fund Drive, according to announcement made by field officials.

The goal for Freeman is \$10,000, one-half of the Jackson County goal.

To date, \$3,039.28 has been contributed. The personnel have been divided into five groups for the drive—enlisted personnel, civilians, cadets, pre-aviation cadets and officers.

Already the cadets have over-subscribed their goal of \$750 and the enlisted men and women have almost reached their goal of \$2,000. Contributions are beginning to be received from officers and it is believed they will meet their goal of \$3,150. Civilians, whose quota is \$2,600, will be contacted later in the month.

8 March 1944

MEDAL TO CAPTIVE FLIER'S FATHER



The Times Special Service.

Official A.A.F. Train Command Photo.

Freeman Field., Ind., March 8.—Hoosier hero, Flight Officer Jack E. Trowbridge, Vallonia, prisoner of war in Germany, was paid homage at retreat ceremonies held recently at Freeman Field, Seymour, when Maj. Robert J. DuChaine, operations officer at the field, presented the Air Medal to Flight Officer Trowbridge's father, Harry Trowbridge. The presentation was made in behalf of Col. E. T. Rund-

quist, commanding officer at the field, for the War Department. Shown here are Capt. William H. McLeod, left, adjutant at Freeman; Mrs. Trowbridge, mother of the airman; Miss Jeannette Trowbridge, a sister; Mr. Trowbridge; Mrs. Anita McMillan, Shelbyville; Major DuChaine and Mrs. Ruth Hotchkiss, Brownstown. Mrs. McMillan and Mrs. Hotchkiss also are sisters of the soldier.

SEYMOUR DAILY TRIBUNE
30 March 1944

Wet Grounds Expected To Cancel Pirate Game

Wet grounds which Wednesday prevented the scheduled big league exhibition game between the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago White Sox at Freeman Field, also were expected to prevent the scheduled game between the Pittsburgh Pirates, training at Muncie, and the Freeman Field baseball team, this afternoon.

The Cleveland Indians are scheduled to oppose the Freeman team here Monday and the Louisville Colonels are to play at the field Thursday. The Chicago White Sox probably will come here on Friday, April 7, for a game with the Freeman team but it is improbable that the game which was called off Wednesday will be played.

3 March 1944

Air Medal Given For County Youth

Presentation at Free- man Field Honors Jack Trowbridge

Major Robert DuChaine, operations officer, presented the Air Medal to Harry Trowbridge, of Vallonia, at retreat ceremonies Thursday afternoon at Freeman Field in behalf of Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, for the war department. Col. Rundquist was visiting at George Field.

The medal is for the heroic performance of Flight Officer Jack Trowbridge, who participated in raids over Germany. He is a prisoner of war in Germany, and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Trowbridge, of Vallonia.

Relatives and friends of Flight Officer Trowbridge attended the ceremonies.

7 March 1944

Freeman Civilian Employes Hear Of Red Cross Aid

Civilian employees at Freeman Field who attended a mass meeting held Monday in the post theater saw, cent for cent, how their dollars help the American National Red Cross perform its countless services to humanity.

In a breakdown of the contributor's dollar, the Rev. Richard E. Lentz, professor of sociology and public welfare at Franklin College, and chairman of Johnson County Chapter, American Red Cross, told how each cent helps to further the Red Cross cause.

Services made possible by contributor's dollars include aid to men stationed at fields within the United States, funds for surgical dressings, food parcels for U. S. soldiers interned in enemy prison camps, food and clothing for civilian victims of war ravaged countries and clubs and recreation centers for the war-weary soldier.

The speaker was introduced by Chaplain Russell M. Hall of Freeman Field, who gave the invocation. Lt. Col. Harry L. Leake, chairman of the war planning committee in charge of the Red Cross drive at Freeman Field, gave a short talk, citing the fact that each person is his brother's keeper and stressing the accomplishments of the organization. Chaplain Daniel A. McGuire pronounced the benediction.

The meeting was arranged under the auspices of Colonel Leake, and is one of a series of programs designed to raise \$10,000 from military and civilian personnel as Freeman's contribution to the current Red Cross drive.

Enemy Pilots Brave, Well Trained--Scott

Veteran Combat Pilot Addresses Graduates Of Class 44-C at Freeman Field

Highlighting his talk with personal experiences, Lt. Emil Scott told graduates of Class 44-C, in ceremonies held in Hangar No. 5 at Freeman Field, Sunday, that the enemy has brave and bold pilots who are skillful and well trained.

Lt. Scott, who is now an engineering officer at Freeman, was a member of the 12th Air Force operating from North Africa. For his heroic performance as the pilot of a B-17, he won the Air Medal and seven oak leaf clusters. He accomplished forty missions over enemy territory.

Lt. Scott told the graduates what they might expect in future training and combat experiences. He pointed out the value of the Red Cross and how important it is to the men overseas. "I am informed," he said, "that the work the Red Cross does in prisoner of war camps is of immeasurable importance. I know how the organization helps to boost morale through its many services."

Instructors Valuable.

Men who remain in the States and become instructors are doing necessary and valuable service, Scott said. "I realize just how you feel. You would rather be out there in combat where you can make a poke at the enemy, but every instructor here in this country should remember that he is training many men to do the job."

Class 44-C marks a year of pilot training at the two-engine advanced school. The first class of cadets arrived here a year ago this month.

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, introduced the speaker. Chaplain Daniel McGuire gave the invocation and Chaplain Russell M. Hall the benediction. Awards and pilot wings were presented by Major William B. Poe, director of training, and Major Albert Hughes, commandant of cadets, gave the men the oath of office.

Rain Here Stops Big League Game

Cubs-White Sox Tilt At Freeman Field Not Held Today

A big league exhibition baseball game which had been scheduled for the Freeman Field diamond at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon was not held because of rain which fell so steadily early today.

Whether the game will just be postponed until a favorable day or whether it will be definitely cancelled was expected to be decided later today.

Both the Chicago teams are in training at French Lick and field authorities made arrangements for the exhibition here. A year ago, a similar game had been arranged here to be held at Redland Park in this city, but heavy rain throughout the day caused that game to be cancelled.

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Club to Give Program for Freeman Field Men

GREENSBURG, Ind., March 30 (Sp.)—The Greensburg Music Club's entertainment program for benefit of men at Freeman Field Hospital, Seymour, will be held in the community gymnasium here Thursday night.

Arthur Reilly, news commentator, will speak. Others on the program include Sergeant A. L. Bannon, of Freeman field, a former night club entertainer; Capt. W. D. Hartman, of the field's public relations department, and B. J. Woods, field director of the American Red Cross. The local school reporting the largest ticket sale for the event will be presented with a flag. Mr. Reilly will make his regular news broadcast from the gymnasium.

Graduation to Mark Freeman Training Year

Class 44-C to Receive Wings at Freeman Field Sunday—Overseas Com- bat Veteran to Speak

Graduation of Class 44-C Sunday at Freeman Field will mark a year of flying training at the air base. The first class of cadets to receive advanced flying training at Freeman arrived here a year ago this month.

Exercises will be held at 11 o'clock Sunday morning in a hangar on the flight line.

Lieut. Emil R. Scott, veteran of forty combat missions, who recently returned from the North African theater of operations will be the speaker. Lieutenant Scott participated actively against the Axis as pilot of a Flying Fortress with the 12th Air Force, and for his brilliant performance was awarded the Air Medal and seven oak leaf clusters. He is now assigned to the 1079th squadron at Freeman as engineering officer.

Col. Rundquist In Charge.

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, will introduce the speaker.

Musical selections will be presented by the 705th band at Freeman Field, of which W/O Mitchell Chetel is director. Major William B. Poe, director of training, will present silver pilot wings to the graduating airmen and the oath of office will be administered by Major Albert E. Hughes, commandant of cadets.

Freeman Officers Present Awards

Posthumous Presenta- tion for Sgt. Neal Made At Madison Church

Capt. James W. Fuller, director of instrument training, and Lt. Jack Elkan, assistant post adjutant, Freeman Field, participated in services Sunday at the Trinity Methodist Church, Madison, Ind., when a posthumous award of the air medal and one oak leaf cluster was made to Mrs. Mabel L. Neal, Madison, in behalf of her son, S/Sgt. John M. Neal.

The awards were made in recognition of the meritorious achievements of Sergeant Neal in aerial flight against the enemy.

Lt. Elkan read the general orders conveying the awards and Capt. Fuller gave the presentation address. The awards were made in behalf of Colonel E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer at Freeman, for the War Department.

Members of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary attended as a group. In addition many friends of the family attended.

New Nurses Now At Freeman Field

Arrival of two additional nurses at Freeman Field augments the corps of army nurses attached to the base hospital.

They include Lieut. Thelma E. Brown and Lieut. Erva V. Powell. Lieutenant Brown's home is in Chattanooga, Tenn., where she did general nursing at a clinic prior to entering the service. She is a graduate of Grundy county high school in Tracy City, Tenn., and obtained her registered nurse certificate at Barnoness Erlanger School of Nursing in Chattanooga.

Lieutenant Powell's former home is in LaGrange, Ga. She is a graduate of Center high school in Gabbettville, Ga., and before enlisting in the Army Nurse corps did private duty in nursing in Chattanooga.

1 April 1944

Freeman to Get Mobile Canteen

Grand Chapter, O.E.S., To Make Presenta- tion Tuesday

A Red Cross mobile canteen unit will be presented by Indiana Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, to Freeman Field at a ceremony to be conducted at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at the field, it was announced today.

The ceremony will be attended by Otto W. Cox, of Indianapolis, Worthy Grand Patron, Mrs. Bliss Fox, of Bloomington, Worthy Grand Matron, and other grand officers of the Order of Eastern Star.

A program for the presentation ceremony at the field was being arranged today and will be announced Monday. Members of the Order of Eastern Star, Masons and their families are invited to attend the presentation. Miss Irene Tullis is Worthy Matron of the Seymour Eastern Star Chapter.

The mobile canteen unit, often referred to as a "kitchen on wheels," will be used to distribute coffee, cold drinks, doughnuts, sandwiches and cookies to personnel of the post. According to present plans, it probably will make regular tours of Freeman Field.

3 April 1944

Program Is Set For Presentation

The cadet headquarters area at Freeman Field will be the scene of the presentation of a Red Cross mobile canteen unit to the field by the Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, it was announced today.

Otto W. Cox, Worthy Grand Patron of the Eastern Star Order, will present Mrs. Bliss Fox, of Bloomington, who will present the mobile unit to either Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, or to Major William M. Coxe, executive officer, who will receive it on behalf of the air field.

Bernard J. Woods, Red Cross field director at Freeman, will speak on behalf of the Red Cross.

Members of the Order of Eastern Star, Masons and their families have been invited to the presentation.

5 April 1944

Mobile Canteen Unit Presented to Freeman Field by State Eastern Star

Freeman Field was presented with a new Red Cross mobile canteen unit by the Indiana Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, in an impressive ceremony conducted Tuesday afternoon at the field. The ceremony was held in the cadet recreation hall because of inclement weather.

Speakers for the presentation were Otto W. Cox, of Indianapolis, Worthy Grand Patron; Mrs. Bliss Fox, of Bloomington, Worthy Grand Matron, and Miss Irene

Tullis, Worthy Matron of Seymour Chapter, O. E. S.

The canteen was received on behalf of the field by Major William M. Coxe, executive officer. Bernard J. Woods, Red Cross field director, spoke on behalf of the Red Cross, and told of the value of the canteen to the men of the armed forces.

A large number of members of the Order of Eastern Star, Masons and their families attended the ceremony.

6 April 1944

Easter Egg Hunt To Be at Field

An Easter egg hunt will be held Sunday afternoon from 3:30 until 4:30 o'clock at Freeman Field for children of all military personnel it was announced today.

The hunt will be held on the lawn of the home of Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer, and Mrs. Rundquist, under the joint sponsorship of the Freeman Field Women's Club and the field's special service office.

In the event of inclement weather, the hunt will be held indoors in the service club.